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A  
LIST  
OF THE  
ABSENTEES  
OF  
IRELAND,  
AND THE  
YEARLY VALUE  
OF THEIR  
ESTATES and INCOMES  
Spent Abroad.

*With* OBSERVATIONS *on the present*  
TRADE *and* CONDITION *of that*  
KINGDOM.

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By THOMAS PRIOR, Esq;

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The Third EDITION; with ADDITIONS.

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*Vincit Amor Patriæ.*

VIRGIL.

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D U B L I N:

Printed for R. GUNNE, Bookseller, in Caple-street.  
MDCCXLV.

A  
LIST  
OF THE  
ABSENTEES

OF  
THE  
YEAR  
1847  
AND THE  
PREVIOUS  
YEARS



WITH OBSERVATIONS ON THE PRESENT  
TRADE AND CONDITION OF THE  
KINGDOM.

BY THOMAS PRIOR, ESQ.

The Third Edition, with Additions.

LONDON: Printed for J. G. & J. W. Smith, Strand.

DUBLIN:

Printed for R. Gunn, Bookseller, in Capel-Street.  
MDCCLXV.

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TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE  
Lord Lieutenant General  
and General Governor of *Ireland*,  
AND TO THE  
L O R D S  
SPIRITUAL and TEMPORAL  
AND  
COMMONS  
In PARLIAMENT Assembled.  
THESE  
OBSERVATIONS  
ARE,  
*With all Respect and Submission*  
*Humbly Dedicated by the*  
AUTHOR.

*Di Patrij, Servate Domum, Servate Nepotes,  
Vestrum hoc augurium est, vestroque in numine Troja est.*  
VIRG.

To His Excellency, The  
Lord Lieutenant General  
and General Governor of Ireland,

AND TO THE  
LORDS  
SPIRITUAL AND TEMPORAL

AND  
COMMONS  
In Parliament Assembled.  
THESE

OBSERVATIONS  
ARE,

With all Respect and Submission  
Humbly Dedicated by the

AUTHOR.

Printed by J. Smith, Stationer, Dublin, 1790.  
By the Author, at the Sign of the Crown, in the Strand, London.

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T O T H E

R E A D E R.

**T**H E Bookseller having signified his Intentions of publishing a new Edition of the List of Absentees, first printed in the Year 1729, and desiring to know whether any thing farther may be added to it, which the present Circumstances of Affairs might suggest: The Author takes this Opportunity to observe, that the Reasons offered in the first Publication, for taxing the Estates of Absentees, grow stronger every Day; as will manifestly appear by the following Letter, addressed to a Member of the  
Parliament

## *To the Reader.*

Parliament of *Ireland*, with the view of supplying a Fund sufficient to answer the present Exigencies of the Public; to which all Persons having Estates in *Ireland* ought with all Justice and Reason to contribute; which Letter may serve for an Introduction to this Edition, and is as follows.

---

A LETTER to a Member of the  
Parliament of *IRELAND*.

November 8, 1745.

**T**HE Rebellion now carried on in *Scotland*, professedly to dethrone our King, and subvert our present happy Constitution; and the Invasions treated from *France* and *Spain*, on the Coasts of *England* and *Ireland*, in Support of the same Designs; should animate every faithful Subject to exert his utmost Power to oppose so wicked an Attempt. The Protestants of *Ireland*, are bound by all the Motives of Interest, and the Regard that all ought to have for their Religion, Lives, Liberties, and Properties, to shew the greatest Zeal in suppressing this Rebellion, and in Defence of their King and Country: Which should not appear barely in Associations and Resolutions to support the Government; but in providing Money to Raise, Arm, and Discipline Men for the Security of the Kingdom. This laudable Spirit and Vigour, hath shewn itself all over this Country, among such Protestants as reside therein. But as for the *Absentees*, who live and spend their Fortunes Abroad, they no way whatever Contribute to the Support of the Government; neither in paying any Part of the Duties of Customs and Excise, from whence the Public Revenue arises, nor by joyning with the rest of their Fellow Subjects here, in any Expence or Trouble attending this Time of Danger: And though their Estates are subject to the same Hazards, and must be defended at the Charge of the Public, yet they avoid by their Absence, to bear any part of the Burthen.

It

## A L E T T E R, &c.

It is but fair, just and equitable, that they who partake of the common Benefits arising from the Support of the Establishment, should bear some Part in the Expence; especially at this critical Conjunction, when all is at Stake, and when all the rest of the Protestants of *Ireland* shew an uncommon Zeal, and put themselves to an extraordinary Expence to defend the Properties of the whole Kingdom. It is therefore hoped that the Parliament will think it reasonable to charge the *Absentees* with one Shilling in the Pound only, of the clear Profits of their Estates, which is but a small Charge in Comparison of what the Resident Protestants pay for the Support and Defence of the Kingdom: And it is presumed, the *Absentees* themselves will not grudge to pay (without fighting their own Battles), so small a Share; which however in the Whole will make a considerable Sum, so much wanted in this Time of Danger, and may probably amount to eight or ten thousand Pounds a Year; a Fund sufficient to raise all the Money necessary for the present Emergencies of the Public: With an Exception and Exemption however, of the Estates of all those Persons, who are Members of either House of Parliament of *Great-Britain*, and who by their necessary Attendance there, do equal Service to their own Country, and to the Common Cause of all Protestants.

Philo-Patriæ.

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T H E  
P R E F A C E.



*THE great Scarcity of Coin, which of late we have been very sensible of, put me on considering what should be the Cause thereof.*

*IT soon occurred, that our Gentlemen abroad drew yearly out of the Kingdom great Quantities of our Species; but what the same amounted to, I saw, could not be ascertained, but by taking an Account of the particular Persons, to whom those Remittances were made, and of the yearly Value of the same.*

*ON Enquiry made the last Summer, I collected the following List, with this particular Caution, to be under the real Value in every Article: And in order to know whether we were Losers or Gainers yearly by our Dealings and Remittances, I found it necessary to examine whether the whole Profit of our Trade was sufficient to answer the Demands upon us.*

THIS

## P R E F A C E.

*THIS I was enabled in some Measure to do by an Opportunity, I met with, of perusing some Copies of the Custom-House Books relating to the Exports and Imports of Ireland, which were found among the Papers of a Great Man lately Deceased: From them I drew several Estimates relating to the Ballances of our Trade with particular Countries, and also made the best Enquiry I could among our Merchants for my better Information in other Particulars.*

*THESE Matters of Fact being layed down as Principles, I have from thence made some Observations, with respect to the Consequences of our Gentlemen living abroad: And at the same time have given a View of our Trade with other Countries, and of the Benefits, which accrue to England by its Dealings with Ireland: And have likewise endeavoured to shew, that it is the Interest of England to encourage our Trade in all its Branches.*

*AND as I thought that any Light given in these Affairs, how small soever, may possibly be of some Service to this Country, so I have with the same View suggested several Hints for the farther Improvement of our Trade and Manufactures.*

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A  
LIST  
OF  
LORDS,  
GENTLEMEN, and OTHERS,

*Who having ESTATES, EMPLOYMENTS,  
and PENSIONS in Ireland, spend the  
same abroad; together with an Estimate of  
the Yearly Value of the same, as taken in  
the Months of May, June and July 1729.*

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The Lords and Gentlemen of Estate, are  
divided into Three Classes.

**F**IRST CLASS comprehends those, who live  
constantly abroad, and are seldom, or never  
seen in *Ireland*.

SECOND CLASS comprehends those,  
who live generally abroad, and visit *Ireland* now  
and then, for a Month or two.

THIRD CLASS takes in those, who live gene-  
rally in *Ireland*, but were occasionally absent, at the  
Time the said List was taken, either for Health,  
Pleasure, or Business; but their Number is com-  
monly the same, for if some come home, others  
go abroad, and supply their Places.

A

FIRST

FIRST CLASS comprehends those who live constantly abroad.

	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
<b>LORDS.</b>			
<b>A</b> R A N,	11	000	
Blundel,	2	300	
Boyne,	1	700	
Burlington,	17	000	
Castlehaven,	8	00	
Castlecomber,	3	000	
Clanrickard,	3	000	
Darnly,	5	000	
Delvin,	4	00	
Digby,	2	500	
Donegal's Estate,	4	000	
Gowran, in Estate and Interest of Money,	7	000	
Grandison,	6	000	
Lord Archibald Hamilton,	1	000	
Inchiquin,	3	000	
Kingfale,	8	00	
Limington,	2	300	
Londonderry, in Estate, and Interest of Money,	1	200	
Malton,	6	000	
Orrery,	4	000	
Peasely,	1	800	
Palmerston,	3	000	
Percival,	3	000	
Shannon,	2	500	
Thomond,	6	000	
Strafford,	6	00	
Weymouth,	2	000	

**LADIES.**

		Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad.		
LADIES,		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Lady Drogheda,		1100		
<i>Dowager Lady Doneraill,</i>		1500		
Lady Jane Holt,		400		
Lord Effingham Howard's Daughters,		1000		
<i>Dowager Lady Kildare,</i>		1200		
Lady Jones Widow,		600		
Lady Betty Molyneux,		1100		
Lady Pine,		400		
Late Lord Ranelagh's Daughters, <i>viz.</i>	}	3000		
Lady Conningsby, Lady Katherine				
Jones, and Lady Kildare,				

GENTLEMEN,				
Francis Annesley of Lincoln's-Inn-Fields,	}	1000		
Randal Adams,		600		
——Barret of Clownish,		1200		
Alderman Beecher of Bristol,		1200		
<i>Doctor Berkeley Dean of Derry,</i>		900		
George Rodney Bridges,		800		
Sir Brook Bridges,		1500		
Thomas Brodrick,		2500		
John Chichester, Brother of Lord Donegal,		1000		
John Clayton of the County of Cork,		400		
Sir William Courtney of Devonshire,		8000		
William Domvill of the County of Dublin,		1400		
Joseph Damer in Estate and Interest Money,		1800		
Sir Redmond Everard, Bart.		1000		
Col. Foulks,		1000		

Esquires.

		Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad.		
		l.	s.	d.
H. Arthur Herbert of Oakly-Park,	}	3000		
Mark Hill of Loughbrickland,		600		
Mr. Hobson, Estate in County of Down,		600		
Hugh Howard,		800		
Mr. Hull, in Estate and Interest of Money,		600		
Rev. John Jackson of Lancashire,		400		
Sir Richard Kennedy's Estate,		1200		
Colonel Loyde of England,		1000		
London Society and Company, in the County of Derry, yearly In- come and Fines included,		8000		
James Macartney,		2500		
Randal Macdonnell, County of Clare,		1400		
William Mitchel of London,		400		
The Honourable and Reverend Mr. Henry Moore,		400		
Pleydell Morton,		1200		
—Murray of Broughton in Scot- land,		1000		
John Neal of Coventry,		900		
Robert Needham of Jamaica,		2300		
Sir William Penn's Estate,		1400		
John Pigott of Somersetshire,		400		
—Plunkett of Dunshauglin,		700		
John Rawlinson of London, Estate in the County of Derry,		800		
General Sabine,		500		
Thomas Scawen of London,		2000		
The Honourable Robert Shirly,		2000		
Oliver St. John,		1400		
—Smith,		6000		
Ralph Smith, Sen.		800		

Esquires.

Sir

Yearly Value of  
their Estates  
spent abroad.

l. s. d.

Sir John Stanley,	}	1200	
Edward Southwell, Secretary of		} Esquires.	3500
State,			3000
John Temple,			1500
---Trenchard, County of Limerick,			400
---Warrington,	800		
Sir Thomas Webster,		2300	
<i>Sir Cecil Wray,</i>			
Several Cities and Corporations in	}	1500	
England, have Estates in Ireland to			
the Yearly Value of			

### GENTLEWOMEN,

Widow Bagnal,	1800
Miss Edwards, in Estate and Interest	} 7000
of Money.	
Mr. Pine's Daughters,	1200
<i>Widow Putland Senior,</i>	1000
Widow Titchburn,	400
Mrs. Vernon,	800

SECOND CLASS comprehends those, who  
live generally abroad, and visit Ireland now and  
then for a Month or two.

### LORDS,

<b>A</b> Bercorne,	2000
Anglesey,	7000
Barrymore,	5000
Carberry,	5500
Fane,	4000
Fitz-William,	5000
Kingston,	2000
	Limerick,

Yearly Value of  
their Estates  
spent abroad

l. s. d.

Limerick,	3500
Middleton,	1500
Montrath,	4000
Mountjoy, Estate,	2500
Molesworth,	1000
Ranelagh,	1800
Shelburn, Estate and Interest of Money,	9000

### LADIES,

Lady Mary Coolley and her Daughters,	1200
Lady Phil Prat,	500

### GENTLEMEN,

Basil Ball,	1600
<i>William Balfour,</i>	600
——Butler of Ballyragget,	1500
Robert Colvil,	5000
Lieutenant General Crofts,	500
——Darcy,	800
——Dowdal,	400
Capt. Charles Echlyn,	1200
Mr. Fox, and Mr. Lane, late Lord	3000
Lanesborough, Estate,	1800
Joseph Gascoigne,	500
John Hamilton,	2000
Sir Gustavus Humes,	500
Brigadier Jones,	400
Sir Randal Mac Donnel,	600
Mr. —— Michletwait,	1000
The Honourable Capel Moore,	400
The Honourable Robert Moore,	1000
——Martin, out of Bagnal's Estate,	2500
Sir Edward O Brien, Bart.	2500
Henry O Brien's Estate,	2500

Esquires.

Sir

		Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad.		
		l.	s.	d.
Sir Thomas Pendergast,	Esquires.	2000		
Patrick Segrave,		400		
Oliver St. George,		2500		
——Sloan, in Estate and Interest		800		
of Money,				
Richard Whitched,		1500		
Benjamin Wolley of London,		900		
Mr.——Wogan of Racoffy,		400		

THIRD CLASS Comprehends those, who live generally in *Ireland*, but were occasionally absent in *May, June* and *July* 1729, for Health, Pleasure, or Business.

### LORDS,

B Ellew,	600
Blessington,	800
Forbes,	1200
Kingsland,	2000
Ikerin,	2000

### LADIES.

Lady Kerry,	500
Lady Tyrone,	800

### GENTLEMEN,

Francis Bernard, Junior,	Esquires.	1200
——Brown of the Neal,		500
Francis Burton of the County of		1000
Clare,		
Captain Thomas Burton,		400

Sir

		Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad.		
		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Sir John Burne Baronet,	Esquires.	2500		
Reverend Doctor Clayton,		600		
William Conolly Junior,		1000		
John Cliff,		600		
The Reverend Mr. Cotterell Dean of Raphoe,		1000		
Henry Cunningham,		800		
-----Dillon Son of Sir John Dillon,		400		
Robert Dickson Councillor at Law,		800		
Sir Compton Domvill,		1500		
-----Dodwell,		800		
Henry Downing,		400		
Richard Edgworth,		500		
William Forward,		1000		
Charles Ford,		600		
Sir John Freke,		1800		
Arthur Gore of the County of Clare,		1000		
Captain Arthur Gore,		600		
William Graham of Drogheda,		3000		
Sir Standish Harstongue,		1200		
Edward Hufley,		400		
Richard Lehunt of the County of Wexford,		800		
George Macartney of Belfast,		500		
John Maxwell of the City of Dub- lin,		2000		
Sir Richard Mead Baronet,		3000		
Mark Morgan of the County of Meath,		800		
George Ogle,		600		
Philip Percival,		1400		
Periam Poole of the Queen's County,		1000		
Richard Reed, of the County of Kilkenny,		400		
-----Riggs,				

Yearly Value of  
their Estates  
spent abroad.

	l.	s.	d.
—Riggs,	1000		
Arthur Stafford, alias Geoghegan,	800		
—Tennison,	400		
—Tasborough,	600		
William Wall, County Waterford,	1500		
Richard Warburton of Garryhinch,	1000		
Richard Weisly of Dangan,	3000		

Esguirs.

### GENTLEWOMEN;

Mrs. Drelincourt,	400
Widdow Stafford Junior,	500
Widdow Usher,	800
Widdow Weisly,	2000

Spent abroad yearly by those, whose  
yearly Income is under 400*l. per An-*  
*num* in Ireland; and who either live  
for the most part in England, or  
go thither occasionally for Pleasure  
or Health,

40,000

Half of these, are supposed to belong to the FIRST  
CLASS, and the other half equally to the other  
TWO.

N. B. There is no Person mentioned in the pre-  
cedent List, whose Estate is supposed to be less  
than 400 *l. per Annum*.

The travelling Expences of Dealers,  
and Traders, who go over yearly in  
great Numbers, from Ireland to En-  
gland, to buy or sell Commodities,

3000

B

spent

Yearly Value  
spent abroad.

l. s. d.

Spent yearly in the Education of the Children of Protestants, and Men of Fortune at <i>Oxford</i> , and <i>Cambridge</i> , and the Schools of <i>England</i> , and of the Children of Papists in foreign Colleges,	8000
Spent yearly, by young Students at the several Inns of Court,	5000
Spent in Law-Suits, on Appeals to the House of Lords, Courts of Dele- gates, and on Writs of Error to the Court of King's Bench in <i>England</i> and for the Advice of Lawyers there, on other Occasions yearly.	9000
Spent in Attendance, and Applications for Employments Civil and Milita- ry, and other Business,	8000

## PROFITS of EMPLOYMENTS spent abroad.

Post-Office, <i>per Ann.</i>	6000
Vice-Treasurer, Lord Falmouth, and Mr. Edgcomb,	8000
Lord Treasurer, Lord Burlington,	365
Commissioners of the Revenue, Four generally absent,	4000
Auditor-General, Lord Nassau Paulet,	1000
Master of the Rolls, Lord Berkeley,	1000
Master of the Ordnance, Marquis Mon- tandre,	800
Chief Remembrancer, Lord Palmerston,	1200
Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant,	2000
Clerk of the Pells, Mr. Dodington,	1600
	Secretary

	Yearly Value spent abroad.
	l. s. d.
Secretary of State, Edward Southwell, Esq;	600
Clerk of the Council, Mr. Poultney,	600
Master of the Revells, Mr. Hopkins,	300
Searcher of the Port of Dublin, Mr. Webster,	400
Comptroller of Ditto, Mr. Eldred,	300
Register of Forfeitures, and Clerk of the Quit-Rent Office, Mr. Coppleston,	700
Clerk of the Crown for	
Lienster, Mr. Witchcot,	250
Munster, Mr. Osburn,	200
Ulster,	200
Wine Taster, and Keeper of the King's Houses, Mr Delafay,	500
Governour of Cork, Mr. Jefferys,	365
Governour of Duncannon Fort, Lieutenant General Honnywood,	365
Governour of Kinsale, Lieutenant General Humphry Gore,	365
Remitted to Greenwich Hospital, Six pence per Month for every Sailor,	400

It appears by the Establishment for the Year 1727,  
given in to Parliament:

THAT the Civil List Pensions amounted to 36047*l.* 18*s.* which, clear of four Shillings in the Pound, came to 28838*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* whereof, we may very well suppose, four Parts in five to be spent abroad,

23070 13 1

Yearly Value  
spent abroad

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
THAT the Military Pensions Amounted to 6409 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> two thirds thereof spent abroad.	4273	3	4
THAT the Establishment for General Officers was 16500 <i>l.</i> <i>per Annum</i> , two thirds spent abroad.	11000		
THAT the Pay of all the Commission'd Officers of 18 Battallions of Foot, four Regiments of Horse, and six of Dragoons, (the Forces now in the Kingdom) Amounts by an Exact Computation to 116508 <i>l.</i> <i>per Ann.</i> one fourth Part thereof spent abroad.	29127		
THAT the Establishment for Half Pay Officers Amounted to 22900 <i>l.</i> <i>per Ann.</i> one fourth Part thereof spent abroad.	5725		
For Officers Widdows 3600 <i>l.</i> <i>per Ann.</i> a third Part spent abroad,	1200		
French Pensions 12800 <i>l.</i> <i>per Annum</i> , a fifth Part spent abroad.	2560		
Sent to England one Year with another to buy Recruit Horses for Ten Regiments of Horse and Dragoons.	4000		
Spent in <i>England</i> in raising Recruits for the Foot Service <i>per Annum</i> ,	2000		
Pay remitted to <i>Gibraltar</i> for three Regiments, Exchange Included,	30,000		
Perquisites on Cloathing 31 Regiments, at 500 <i>l.</i> each Regiment yearly, comes to 15500 <i>l.</i> two thirds thereof spent abroad.	10,333	6	8

Carry'd

Yearly Value  
spent abroad.

l. s. d.

Carry'd off yearly by Adventurers to  
*America*, who, may be reckon'd to  
 be 3000 in Number, and to carry  
 off 10*l.* each, one with another, } 30,000

Remitted out of the Kingdom yearly, on the Ac-  
 count of,

Ensurance of Ships and Goods,  
 Assurance from Fire,  
 For Religious Uses by Papists,  
 For Freight of Shipping,  
 For News-Papers from *England*,  
 For Coach, and Saddle-Horses, from  
*England*,  
 For Gold and Silver Watches, Precious  
 Stones, Rich Toys, fine Flanders  
 Lace, Gold and Silver Lace, Rich  
 Cloaths, and Furniture of all Sorts,  
 which are suppos'd not to appear in  
 the Custom-House Books.

'Tis difficult to ascertain the Value of  
 all these Articles; but we may rea-  
 sonably suppose them to Amount  
 yearly unto

20000

TOTAL of the present Annual Re-  
 mittances out of the Kingdom, } 627799 3 1

Yearly Value  
spent abroad.

l. s. d.

## A GENERAL ABSTRACT of the Quantity of Money, drawn out of the Kingdom yearly, viz.

By those of the First Class,	204200	00	0
By those of the Second Class,	91800	00	0
By those of the Third Class,	54000	00	0
By those, whose Income is under 400 <i>l.</i> <i>per Ann.</i>	40000	00	0
By those, who have Employments in <i>Ireland,</i>	31510	00	0
For the Education of Youth, Law- Suits, Attendance, and by Dealers,	33000	00	0
By the Pensioners on the Civil List,	23070	13	1
By those on the Military Establishment,	67658	10	0
By French Pensioners,	2560	00	0
By Remittances to <i>Gibraltar,</i>	30000	00	0
By Adventurers to <i>America,</i>	30000	00	0
On Account of several Articles men- tion'd in the last Paragraph,	20000	00	0
	627799	03	1

SUPPLE.

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## S U P P L E M E N T.

**I** Shall by way of Supplement, take Notice of some additional Articles, which ought to be taken into Consideration, whenever we come to compute the Quantity of Money, yearly drawn out of the Kingdom, and which could not so properly be brought under any of the Heads, mention'd in the precedent List.

1<sup>st</sup>, We are to observe, that a great many Estates, and Woods, have of late been sold in *Ireland*, and all the Purchase Money at once carry'd into *England*: And which is farther remarkable, some Estates have in the Compass of a few Years been sold again, and all the Purchase Money sent away a second Time.

2<sup>d</sup>, T H A T great Sums of Money are yearly sent abroad, to discharge old Debts, contracted by Persons now residing in *Ireland*.

3<sup>d</sup>, T H O' some of the aforesaid Persons, may spend less abroad than here rated; yet many of them spend much more than their yearly Income; which Debts must be paid in *England*, after they come to reside in *Ireland*.

4<sup>th</sup>, T H A T several Estates of *Irish* Landlords, who live abroad, have of late been much rais'd, and large Fines taken and remitted to them; and many more Estates, will not fail to be rais'd to the Height, as the old Leases expire, and thereby encrease their yearly Draughts upon us.

5<sup>th</sup>, T H A T several Persons, who live abroad, have large Mortgages, on Estates in *Ireland*; the  
Interest

Interest Money whereof, is constantly return'd to them in *England*.

6th, MANY of our young Lords and Gentlemen, in a few Years after they come to Age, squander in other Countries, all the ready Money, which had been saved for them, by their Guardians, in their Minorities.

7th, GREAT Numbers live abroad, whose Names or Estates for Want of due Information, are here omitted.

8th, THERE is yearly carried out of this Kingdom, about 60000*l.* by the Colliers of *England* and *Scotland*, who take very little else, but ready Money in Return for their Coals: but this Point will more properly come to be consider'd hereafter, upon the Article of Trade.

I SHALL now beg Leave to take Notice of the Method and Caution made use of, in forming, and drawing up the said List; and to observe, that the best Endeavours have not been wanting, to procure from Receivers, Agents, and others, an exact Information of the clear yearly Income of the Estates of the Persons mentioned in the said List, and of the Sums of Money they may be reasonably suppos'd to spend abroad, and that Care has been taken in the Computation, to be always under the real Value, in Order to make Allowances for Loss to Agents, Quit-rents, and other Charges.

WE are farther to observe, that the Estates of many of the said Persons, are much larger than here set down; *but Part thereof being applied to the Payment of Jointures, Rent Charges, and Debts, or otherwise, spent or saved at home*; we have not therefore set forth the full Value of them, but so much only as is supposed to be spent abroad.

THO' some of our Gentlemen stay abroad but a short Time, yet, when we would compute how much

much Money is yearly drawn out of the Kingdom, we are oblig'd to take Notice of all those Persons; who are at any one Time absent; for if some come home, others do not fail to go abroad, and supply their Places.

IF through Misinformation, the yearly Income or Remittances of some Persons, mention'd in the said List, should happen to be over-rated; that is amply made up by others, who will be found, upon Enquiry, to be undercharg'd; and indeed, many make the annual Drain of Money, arising from the afore-said Articles, to be Two Hundred Thousand Pounds more; than herein estimated.

C

OBSER

## OBSERVATIONS

On the Precedent

## LIST:

TOGETHER

*With a View of the TRADE of Ireland,  
and the great Benefits, which accrue to  
England thereby; with some HINTS  
for the farther Improvement of the same.*

**M**ONEY being the Measure of all Commerce, a certain Quantity thereof is necessary, for the carrying on the Trade of each Country, in Proportion to the Business thereof.

'Tis generally estimated, that the current Species of *England*, is at present twelve or fifteen Million, *Sterl.* and that so much is necessary for the Support of its foreign and domestick Trade; in which 'tis much assisted, by many Millions more, in Bank-Notes, Bank, and South-Sea-Stock, and other publick Securities, which being easily transferred from one to another, have, in Effect the Use, and Convenience of Money.

'Tis reasonable to suppose, that the Quantity of Species, requisite to carry on the Trade of *Ireland* with Ease and Advantage, cannot be less than a Million

Million or 800000*l.* if we consider, that the yearly Value of our Exports is at a Medium 1044000*l.* and of our Imports 864000*l.* that the publick Revenue and Charge of the Establishment are each near 500000*l. per Annum*, and that our Rents and domestic Commerce amount yearly to the Value of several Millions; all which Articles must be paid in ready Money, and therefore can hardly be supposed to require less than 800000*l.* for the convenient Management thereof.

It is very probable, that we were possessed of so much Coin in the Year 1700; and that the same was in a great Measure owing to the War, that happen'd at the Time of the Revolution; which, tho' it laid the Country waste, yet brought in a great deal of Money for Payment of the Armies, which continuing to circulate among us, gave Life to all Business, and much sooner than could be expected, retriev'd the Affairs of *Ireland*: But the Act of Resumption, soon after taking Place, swept away at once about 600000*l.* of our Treasure; under which Loss, we languish'd for some Years, and did not fully recover our selves, till about the Year 1715, when the Ballance of Trade running much in our Favour, and our Remittances abroad being moderate, there was no Want of Money or Credit for the Support of Business, but on the contrary the Interest of Money was lower'd, and the Price of Lands grew high.

Thus we continued for some Time in a tolerable Condition; but of late, that Treasure, which was the Fruit and Acquisition of many Years, hath gradually flow'd from us; which makes us daily more sensible of the Scarcity of Money, which could formerly be easily had at 6*l. per Cent.* Interest, but now cannot, without some Difficulty, be had at 7*l.* This Want of Money in the Kingdom, throws a Damp upon all Business; Manufacturers can't be set

to Work, Materials purchas'd, or Credit subsist; and People, who are willing to support themselves by their Industry, are left to struggle with Poverty, for Want of Employment.

WE are not now at a Loss to point out the principal *Source* of all our Misfortunes, and the chief *Cause* of all this Distress; it appears plainly, from the List of *Absentees*, and the Estimate of the Quantity of Species, they may be reasonably suppos'd to draw yearly out of the Kingdom, that no other Country labours under so wasteful a Drain of its Treasure, as *Ireland* does at present, by an annual Remittance of above 600000 *l.* to our *Gentlemen* abroad, without the least Consideration or Value return'd for the same: This is so great a Burthen upon us, that I believe, there is not in History, an Instance of any one Country, paying so large a yearly Tribute to another.

COUNTRIES that abound in Mines of Gold and Silver, are enabled by the Bounty of Nature, to bear an Exportation of their Bullion; but others, which want this natural Produce, and have no other Way of getting or keeping Money, but by having the Ballance of Trade in their Favour, suffer extremely, when ever they want Coin sufficient for circulating their Business,

It is believ'd by many, who understand our Money Affairs, that there is less Species now in the Kingdom, than was at any one Time since the *Revolution*, if not since the *Restoration*: The most Sanguine do not reckon that we have 400000 *l.* now remaining; if so, 'tis impossible to subsist much longer under such a Drain; for if the Quantity of Money exported vastly over Ballances any Income or Gain we have by Trade, (as plainly appears by examining the said List, the Ballance of our Trade herein set forth, and a constant Course of Exchange against us,) it evidently follows, that all our re-  
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maining Species, will in a little Time, be carry'd off: The Consequence whereof will be, that we shall be utterly disabled from carrying on our foreign and domestick Commerce, paying Rents, or discharging the publick Establishment.

'Tis to be fear'd, this Misfortune will fall upon us much sooner, than could be thought of; since we are credibly inform'd, that Miss *Edwards's* Estate in this Kingdom, said to be worth 150000 *l.* is immediately to be sold, and the purchase Money sent away; that a *Noble Lord*, of the greatest Fortune here, is to have 80000 *l.* remitted to him, by Sale of Part of his Estate, and that several others are selling, or mortgaging their Lands for large Sums; if all these Designs should soon take Place, they will be sufficient to carry off all the circulating Cash of the Kingdom in a very short Time.

'Tis true, this Evil is of such a Nature, as in a little Time. it must cure itself; for if the Demands of our *Absentees* greatly exceed all our Gain by Trade, and amount to as much yearly, as the whole current Coin of the Kingdom; there will be soon nothing left for them to draw away, and they must be forc'd to return to their Native Country; which must necessarily be the Case, unless, (which can't reasonably be suppos'd) they shall think it a less Grievance to starve abroad.

WHEN Things come to this Extremity, Great must be the Calamity of all, even of those who are innocent, and have not had the least Share in bringing this Evil upon us; for then, no Rents can be paid in Money, but all in Kind; no sort of Trade can be carried on, but by bartering one Commodity for another: The Price of Lands must universally fall, the Army must be broke, or live on free Quarters, and the Establishment, and all Professions must sink for Want of Money to support them.

WE shall be then reduc'd to the Condition of some of our *Plantations*, out of which, for the same Causes, all Money is carry'd off as fast as it enters, and nothing left current but Paper, by the Authority of Government, under a great Discount.

IF our *Gentlemen* abroad, were the only Sufferers by their Conduct, we should have no Reason to complain; but it happens in this Case, that, tho' they bring this *Evil* upon us, they will be the last that will feel the Effects of it; but, at length, must share the same Fate with our selves.

I SHALL, in what follows, consider the Ballance of the Trade of *Ireland*, and how far it may enable us to support these Remittances abroad; it will appear clearly from thence, that whatever Gain we had formerly, the same has decreas'd of late Years considerably, and falls much short of what is sufficient to answer the Demands of our *Gentlemen* abroad; infomuch, that the Ballance of our whole Trade for the Year 1726, instead of being in our Favour, was 12000 *l.* against us, occasion'd by a great Importation of foreign Commodities.

'TIS melancholly to observe, that, now we are labouring under great Disadvantages in Trade, and struggling with Penury and Want: the Humour of living, and spending abroad still encreases among our Men of *Quality* and *Station*, and has even infected our *Ladies*, who may be sooner found out at *London*, *Paris*, *Rome*, or any foreign Place of Expence, than at home.

IF those *Gentlemen*, who now draw out of the Kingdom yearly 600000 *l.* could be prevail'd upon, to spend the same at home, the Advantages and good Effects thereof, would be soon visible in the Improvement of Lands and Houses; in the Encrease of People, Arts, and Manufactures, in a greater Produce in the Excise and Customs, and in a better Support

Support of the Government: Whereas now by the Means of our *Nobility* and *Gentry* deserting their own Country, and spending all abroad, our People are left without Employment, and are forced to shift to foreign Countries, even to *America*, to get a Livelihood; and the Publick Funds fall very short of the necessary Establishment, and must grow worse every Day; so that, in Time of Peace, we shall be driven to the Necessity, either of lessening the Establishment, or encreasing our Taxes, without any Ability to pay them.

'Tis too much in Reason for these *Gentlemen* to expect, that we shall patiently bear with the Loss of our Trade, Loss of our Money, and additional Taxes; for no other Reason, but to gratify the Vanity of those, who have thus wantonly abandon'd their Country, and riot abroad in its Ruin: There is no way left to save us, but by obliging them to live at home, or making them pay for living abroad.

PERHAPS, some may imagine, that our *Absentees* have great Encouragement to go, and spend their Fortunes abroad, that they are received with open Arms and prefer'd to places of Profit, Honour, and Power; but, alas! if we examine the said List, we shall find, that there is not any one therein mention'd, born and bred in *Ireland*, except *Hugh Howard* Esq; who has got any Pension, any Civil or Military Employment by living abroad; not even of those who are Members of either House of Parliament of *Great-Britain*, tho' there are several in the said List, who have put themselves to Expence, to obtain the Honour of Sitting there: so little are they regarded in those Countries, where they spend all their Fortunes: The Case indeed is otherwise with the *North-Britains*, who lose nothing by going into other Countries, whatever they gain there; 'tis true, there are two or three *Lords* in the said List,

List, who have Employments abroad; but these *honourable* Persons were neither bred, nor born in *Ireland*, and owe their Preferments to their Interests and Alliances abroad, and not to any Estates they happen to have in *Ireland*.

NOR can we think it strange, that our *Absentees* are thus serv'd; for how can Persons, who can get no Employment, in their own *Country*, by Virtue of the Interest they have there, expect to be preferr'd in another, where they have no Interest at all; perhaps, they may reckon much on their personal Abilities to serve the Government there, and to be preferr'd for their Services; but we dont find, that *any one* of them has as yet been distinguish'd by any *considerable* Preferment, or even *any* Preferment at all.

WE may be soon cur'd of any vain Expectations of that Kind, if we consider that our Countrymen are so far from being carress'd, that they are generally slighted, and hated in other Countries: It must be own'd, that the *Poverty* of some of our *Natives*, and the *Extravagance* of many of our Men of *Fortune* have brought us into *Discredit* and *Contempt*; so that of all Nations, we have the Misfortune to be the least regarded by *those*, who get most by us: And yet such is our *Folly*, that many of our People choose to spend their Estates, in a mean obscure Way abroad, under the Contempt and Hatred of all about them, rather than live at home in *Plenty*, *Honour*, and *Esteem*.

I WISH, we could say, that these Gentlemen, by living abroad, had any way contributed to the Interest of *Ireland*; but, I am afraid they have little Merit of this Kind to plead; for except a very few Persons, who upon all Occasions, have been willing, industrious and able to serve us, (and which we shall ever with the greatest Gratitude acknowledge,) we know of none of our *Absentees*, who, upon emergency, where-  
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In the Interest of *Ireland* was concern'd, have had Spirit or Disposition, Interest or Weight, or even a sufficient Knowledge of the Affairs of their own Country to do it Service; they are generally either Strangers to the Circumstances and Interests of *Ireland*, or have no Power or Qualifications to be of Use to it.

If we enquire into the Motives of this Conduct of our Gentlemen, so injurious to their own, and their Country's Interest; we shall find, that a luxurious manner of Living, an Affectation of imitating the Nobility and Gentry of other Countries in their Expences, together with the Largeness of their Fortunes, are the principal Motives of their spending all their Estates abroad; which they seldom fail to incumber with great Debts, and frequently sell, either to gratifie their present Vanity, or pay for past Follies.

'Tis a melancholly Observation, and fit to be remembered, that almost all the Estates, which of late Years have been sold in *Ireland*, have belong'd to such of our Gentlemen, as brought themselves under a Necessity of selling, to discharge Debts contracted abroad; we can justly date the Ruin of several great Families, from the fatal Period, of their going to live abroad; and we may now, prophetically pronounce the like Fate of several others, who have of late, or shall hereafter follow the same Course of living, *That their Lands shall pass away to Strangers, and their Names be no more heard of.*

THE Extinction of such Families, may probably be no Hurt to the Publick, but then the Value of their Estates spent abroad, is certainly lost to the Kingdom; an *English* Prodigal, injures none but his own Family, since whatever he squanders, goes into the Pockets of others, of the same Country; but an *Irish Spendthrift*, who commonly makes *Lon-*

*don* or *Paris*, the Scene of his Extravagance, not only deprives his Family, but his Country also, of the full Value, of all he Consumes.

It has been observ'd (as another ill Effect of living abroad) concerning such of our *Gentlemen* of Fortune, as happen to marry there, that they and their Posterity are for the most Part lost to this Kingdom; 'tis shocking to an *English Lady*, to think of living in such a poor, despis'd Place as *Ireland* is, and if she has not made it an Article of Marriage, as it often is the Case, she seldom fails, some other Way to prevail on an *easy* Husband to forsake his Country; and takes Care to breed up her Children in the same Aversion; and from that Time forward, we hear no more of them, but by their constant drawing all their Rents from hence, and racking their poor Tenants: Such *Deserters*, and others also who can be prevailed upon by their *Irish Ladies* to live abroad, prove the worst Enemies to *Ireland*, by laying it under a continual yearly Pillage to their Vanity and Luxury, without contributing the least Farthing, towards the Support of the Government.

AND here I cannot but take Notice, of the Conduct of some of our *Gentlemen*, in sending their Children to other Countries for Education; 'tis certain, if they were better appriz'd of the Manner of Living, Studying, and Performances requir'd of them abroad, they would believe it much better to educate them in our Colleges at home; where a greater Strictness and Attendance to Duties, more reading and studying, and generally better Scholars, in Proportion to their Numbers, and less Corruption, are to be found; this Humour proceeding from a Want of Judgment and Observation, is often attended with this Consequence, that the young *Gentlemen* educated abroad, either take a Liking to other Countries, and so are for ever lost to their own, if their Fortune will enable them to live there;  
or

or if they return home, perhaps bring nothing with them, but the Follies and Luxuries of our Neighbours, by which we suffer too much already.

If some think it a Hardship, that many of our *Employments*, are given to other People; we all have just Reasons to complain, that those *Employments* are served by Deputies, and of Consequence the greatest Part of the Profits thereof carried out of the Kingdom, and spent abroad: 'Tis our Misfortune that too many of the *English*, who obtain Places in this Country, seldom favour us with their Company in the Enjoyment of them; 'tis true, we have one Visit from them, when they come over to qualify themselves here, and take Possession of their Preferments; tho' some of them, will not even be at so much Trouble, but obtain Acts of Parliament in *England* to dispence with their Qualifications in *Ireland*; and after this Beginning, we see no more of them, but their Names in our publick Establishments; of which we have a remarkable Instance in one who having obtain'd an Employment in *Ireland*, landed in *Dublin* on a *Saturday* Evening, went next Day to a Parish-Church, and received the Sacrament; on *Monday* Morning he took the Oaths in the Courts, and in the Afternoon set sail for *England* again, and we never saw more of him.

BUT as to *those* who get Preferment here, and live and settle with us, we have no Cause to repine; they become one with us, heartily espouse the Interest of the Country, and are in all Respects an Advantage to it; we can't but remember, that a great many considerable Families now in the Kingdom, are the Descendants of such, who came hither for Preferment; and we must be so just as to acknowledge that those *Englishmen*, who are promoted to the highest Preferments in the *Church* and the *Law* in *Ireland*, generally attend their Functions here, and dwell among us.

THE greatest Hardship, we suffer, on Account of the Pensions on our Establishment, is, that for the most Part they are spent abroad: Taxes spent at home, do not impoverish us, though private Persons may suffer in the Payment of them; but what ever is spent abroad, is a general Loss to the Kingdom.

NOR can we altogether excuse the *Military Officers* from contributing to the Impoverishment of this Country: Of the many General Officers on our Establishment, very few of them, are at any Time to be found here, tho' they are perhaps the only Generals in *Europe*, in full Pay in Time of Peace; and, if at any Time, any of them are order'd to review our Forces, which is the only Part of Duty requir'd of them, they expect to be allowed for that Service in *Ireland*, which does not last above six Weeks, or two Months, 300*l.* or 500*l.* over and above their Pay as General, which is as much as any Lieutenant-General in the Foreign Service is allowed a Year; and this too, tho' they happen to come over at the same Time to take Possession of a *good Government*; many of our Colonels and Field Officers, by the same Example, live for the most Part abroad, to the Disabling the poor People of this Kingdom, from paying that very Establishment, by which they are maintain'd.

WE are apt to complain of the Hardships laid upon us by *England* in respect to our Trade, and when we are pinch'd, and in Distress charge our Misfortunes to the Account of other People; but if we truly examine all Circumstances, we shall find, that to *our selves* we owe most of the Misfortunes, and Inconveniences we labour under; we owe them to our immoderate Consumption of Foreign Commodities at home, and extravagant spending abroad.

'TIS not to be wonder'd at, that we should grow poorer every Day, under such an unprofitable Issue  
of

of Money, which all the Labour of the People, and Produce of the Country, with every Acquisition they can make, are not sufficient to supply: This is an *Evil* long complain'd of, and in our Days is increas'd to that Degree, that we shall soon be utterly exhausted, unless some effectual Stop be put thereto; and as it arises principally from *our selves*, 'tis much in our own Power to redress it; with this View I shall take Notice of what Provisions our Ancestors made in this Case, and beg Leave to suggest some Expedients that may remedy this growing Evil.

SIR *John Davis*, Attorney General in *Ireland* to King *James* the First, in his *Historical Relations*, has observ'd, that the Absence of the *Great Lords*, (who having great Estates in *Ireland*, yet kept their continual Residence in *England*) was the principal Cause of the slow Progress made in the Reduction of *Ireland*, and of the frequent Rebellions of the *Irish*, who were thereby encourag'd to make Encroachments upon the *English*, and dispossess them of their Lands; and that the Kings of *England* were thereby put to the Necessity of sending Armies over from Time to Time to reduce and reconquer several Provinces thereof.

FOR which Reason an Ordinance had been made in *England*, the 3d of *Richard* the Second, against  
 ' such as were absent from their Lands in *Ireland*,  
 ' which gave *two Third* Parts, of the *Profits* there-  
 ' of unto the King, until they return'd or placed a  
 ' sufficient Number of Men to defend the same;  
 ' which Ordinance was put in Execution for many  
 ' Years after, as appears by fundry Seizures made  
 ' thereupon, in the Time of *Richard* the IId, and  
 ' *Henry* the IVth, Vth, and VIth, whereof there re-  
 ' main Records in the Remembrancers Office here.  
 ' Among the rest, the Duke of *Norfolk* himself was  
 ' impleaded on this Ordinance, for two Parts of the  
 ' Profits

‘ Profits of his Lands in the County of *Wexford*, in  
 ‘ the Time of *Henry* the VIth, and afterwards, on  
 ‘ the same Reason of State, all the Lands of the  
 ‘ House of *Norfolk*, of the Earl of *Shrewsbury*, Lord  
 ‘ *Berkely*, and others (who having Lands in *Ireland*,  
 ‘ yet resided continually in *England*,) were entirely  
 ‘ resumed and vested in the Crown, by the *Act of Abs-*  
 ‘ *sentees* made the 28th of *Henry* the VIIIth.

Not only two third Parts of the Profits of the  
 Lands of *Absentees* were forfeited by Law, but if any  
 in *Office* went out of the Kingdom, his *Office* became  
 void immediately, and therefore in the 25th of *Henry*  
 the VIth an *Act* pass’d in *Ireland*, ‘ that whereas it  
 ‘ was in Doubt, if any Persons in *Office*, did pass by  
 ‘ Sea, from one Port of *Ireland* to another, whether  
 ‘ their *Offices* were void, as if they had pass’d into  
 ‘ *England*, or into other Lands out of *Ireland*; it  
 ‘ was thereby Declar’d, that any *Officer*, may pass  
 ‘ in Ships, or Boats, from any part of *Ireland* to  
 ‘ another, without forfeiting his *Office*: And by ano-  
 ‘ ther *Act* made in the same Year, entitled, *an Act*  
 ‘ *concerning Absentees*, it was ordain’d, that if any  
 ‘ of the King’s Subjects, or Officers, be absent out  
 ‘ of the Land of *Ireland*, by the Commandment of  
 ‘ the King, or the Governour, or Council, that their  
 ‘ Lands, Rents, or Offices by their said *Absence*,  
 ‘ shall not be seiz’d, nor taken into the King’s Hands,  
 ‘ and their Offices shall not be void.

THESE Acts do necessarily imply and presuppose  
 that there were then Acts in Force, (which though  
 now not mention’d in our Statute-Books, as many,  
 now lying in the Rolls-Office, are not, yet possibly  
 may be found, in some of our Offices of Record)  
 whereby the Offices, and two third Parts of the Pro-  
 fits, of the Lands of *Absentees*, were forfeited to the  
 King; and the Statute of *Absentees*, of the 28th of  
*Henry* the VIIIth, expressly takes Notice, that two  
 Parts in three, of the yearly Profits of the Lands of  
*Absent*

*Absent Persons*, did by Reason of their *Absence*, belong to the King, by Vertue of the Statutes for that Purpose provided.

By an Act pass'd, 10 Car I. Cap. 21. It is Enacted, ' That all Persons, dwelling in *England*, or elsewhere, who shall obtain Titles of Honour, among the Nobility of *Ireland*, shall, tho' resident in *England*, or elsewhere, contribute towards all publick Charges, tax'd by Parliament, rateably and in such Manner, as others of their Rank, Resident in this Kingdom, are or shall be liable unto.

THESE are the legal Provisions, which our *Ancestours* made to prevent our *Gentlemen* of Estate and Office from living abroad; and we don't find they were ever repealed: happy had it been for this Kingdom, if they had been duely executed: As this Evil grows daily upon us, and has already thrown the Nation into a wasteful Consumption of all its Substance, 'tis high Time, to apply some Remedy to stop this immoderate Drain, which has reduced us almost to nothing: And this can be done no other way, than, in imitation of our *Ancestours* and of all wise Nations, in the like Case, by taxing the Estates of those, who out of Wantonness, and Luxury, choose to spend all the Profits thereof abroad, to the Empoverishment and Ruin of their Native Country. Unless some such Method be taken, we shall soon be deprived of all the little Money left among us, be disabled from answering the Charges of the Publick, and become a Burthen to *England*, as in former Times.

'Tis not reasonable to expect, that the Security of the Protestant Religion and Interest in this Kingdom, the Prosperity of the People, and Safety of the Government, should all give way to the Gratifications of our *Gentlemen* abroad; if they set so high a Value on their Foreign Pleasures, that for the Enjoyment of them, the Kingdom must be brought in-

to

to Ruin; 'tis to be hoped, they shall not be indulged in all this, without contributing their Quota towards the Charges of the *Publick*. As the Case stands at present, while all others at home pay largely in Taxes, for the Maintenance of our Establishment, *These Gentlemen*, tho' they have generally nothing, but what they derive from this Country, yet pay not one Farthing for the Support of it. They have indeed the Merit of paying, by their foreign Consumptions, the Taxes of all Countries, but their own.

'Tis notorious, that some have drawn out of the Kingdom 100,000, some 200,000, and others above 300,000*l.* the last 20 Years, and yet the said Persons have not contributed to the Support of the publick Charges, as much as the meanest Persons, who pay *the least Part of our Taxes*.

It cannot be supposed, that our *Irish Landlords*, who live abroad, and consume no Part of the Produce or Manufacture of their Country, pay the least Share of the Duties or Taxes thereof; or relieve any of its Poor, whose Miseries they never see; or make any Improvements, who never mean to live among us. Nay, their living abroad seems to have so far alienated their Affections from their Country, and hardened their Tempers towards it, that they, above all others, are remarkable for setting their Estates at a *Rack Rent*, so as hardly to allow a Livelihood to their poor Tenants, by whom they are supported.

THERE is no Country in *Europe*, which produces, and exports so great a Quantity of *Beef, Butter, Tallow, Hydes, and Wool*, as *Ireland* does; and yet our Common People are very poorly Cloath'd, go bare-legged half the Year, and very rarely taste of that Fleshmeat, with which we so much abound; We pinch our selves in every Article of Life, and export more, than we can well spare, with no other Effect or Advantage, than to enable our *Gentlemen and Ladies* to live more luxuriously Abroad. AND

AND *They* are not content to treat us thus, but add Insult to ill Usage; *they* reproach us with our Poverty, at the same Time, that *they* take away our Money; and can tell us, we have no Diversions or Entertainments in *Ireland* for them, when they themselves disable us from having better, by withdrawing from us.

BUT 'tis to be hoped, that our Legislature will take Care, that those Gentlemen, who spend their Fortunes abroad, and are thereby the greatest, and almost only Cause of its Poverty and Distress, shall not be the only Persons favoured, and exempted from paying the Taxes thereof.

A TAX of four Shillings in the Pound on the Estates of *Absentees*, would in all Likelyhood, remove the Evils complain'd of, by stopping in a great Measure those wasteful Drains of our Money; and would, in all Respects, answer the Occasions of the Government; for if these Gentlemen, will notwithstanding, still live abroad, then a considerable Fund will arise out of their Estates to defray the publick Charges; and if they should return home, then the publick Revenue will encrease by a greater Produce in the Excise and Customs, in Proportion as the home Consumption would be enlarg'd by the spending of so much more Money among us; either Way the publick Occasions would be supply'd; and the People reliev'd.

WE may farther observe by the said List, that the great and continual Drain of Money out of this Kingdom, is from the large Estates; few Gentlemen of small Fortunes, do, or can live abroad.

AN Act of Gavelkind (whereby all Estates above 500*l. per Ann.* should descend, and be divided in equal Proportion, among all the Sons, as Coheirs, (with certain Reservation, in Favour of those, who have Titles of Honour, of all present Family Settlements, and of eldest Sons, if it should be thought adviseable)

adviseable) would, in a great Measure, prevent so much living and spending abroad, and induce all the Sons, to sit down on their own respective Patrimonies, and improve them.

SUCH a Descent of Estates is certainly agreeable to the Law of Nature, for Children equally related to their Parents, ought to be equally their Care; but our Law and Custom, that gives the whole real Estate to the eldest Son, serves indeed no other Purpose, but to gratify the *Pride* and *Vanity* of Families, and leaves to the younger Children (often the most deserving) a poor scanty Provision, or perhaps no Provision at all; whilst the eldest Son is tempted by the Largeness of his Estate, to spend all luxuriously abroad, to the utter Ruin of the Family, and great Loss of the Kingdom. *The Pride of Names and Families, is despised by all People of Sense, and is rarely to be found but in poor Countries, or Persons of reduc'd Fortunes, and is generally accompany'd with the Want of real Merit.*

'TIS true Policy, and would tend much to the Benefit of remote Provinces, if Property were more equally divided among the Inhabitants; large overgrown Estates are generally consumed, either abroad or at the Capital, and may be reckon'd as so much Tribute, in Effect, drawn from the Provinces; while small Fortunes are spent in the Place where they arise, with more Virtue, and Advantage to the Country.

AND till we can be so happy as to obtain such an Act of Parliament, which would be greatly to the Benefit of this Kingdom; 'tis to be hoped, that Gentlemen of large Estates, out of Regard to their Posterity, and the Good of their Country, will in their Marriage Settlements, or last Wills choose rather to bring in their younger Sons for a Share of their Lands, and so make many thriving young Families, than by giving all to one Son, to tempt him,  
by

by extravagant living abroad, to put an End to the Family at once, as it hath often happened of late within the Knowledge and Observation of every one.

We must own, that there are many of our *Gentlemen* abroad, who wish well to their Country, and abhor all Thoughts of having a Hand in the Ruin of it; who yet are not sensible how much this Kingdom is distressed and suffers by their living and spending their Estates in other Countries; but when they come to reflect on the Consequences thereof, and see the Poverty and Miseries we labour under by their Means, and that they themselves must at last share therein, 'tis not to be doubted, but that they will, out of Regard to themselves, and Compassion to their Country; change their Conduct, and act as becomes them.

We must not forget, that as on the one Hand we suffer extreamly by many, who have abdicated their Country, and have no Sense of its Miseries, so on the other Hand we lie under the greatest Obligations to those Lords and Gentlemen, who constantly live and spend their Fortunes among us: If the Earl of *Kildare* and others of our Nobility, Mr. *Connolly* and others of our *Commons*, had not all along resided among us, we should long since have been exhausted of all our Treasure, and reduced to the greatest Distress.

I CAN'T forbear on this Occasion, to take Notice of one remarkable Instance, among many others, which Mr. *John Damer*, one of our richest Commoners, has lately given us, of the just Sense he has of the Good of this Country, and how much he has the Interest thereof at Heart. This Gentleman having no Prospect of issue to inherit his great Estate, in order to engage his Brother, (who, we may suppose, is design'd to be his Heir, and has several Children; and a large Fortune in *England*;) to

settle in this *Kingdom*, has agreed to make over to him at present a considerable Estate, with a fine House well furnished thereon, upon this *express Condition* and *Consideration*, that he shall immediately bring over his Family, and reside among us: And I am informed his Brother has agreed thereto. By this Means he has provided, that his Estate shall continue to be spent in the Kingdom, which otherwise would, in all Probability, be constantly carry'd off after his Decease; and it is to be hoped, that other Gentlemen, moved by the same Spirit, will shew themselves the same true *Patriots*, and by their last Wills oblige their Heirs to reside among us.

THE Love of one's Country is seldom found in any remarkable Degree, but in those, who live long in it, agreeable to the Intention of *Nature*, which disposes all Men and other Creatures to a Fondness for those Places in which they live; if this be the Case, I fear we can expect but little Good from those, who, by forsaking their Country, must have lost almost all natural Affection towards it; and this may teach us, who still retain a Sense of the Duty we owe our Country, to be very cautious, on all future Elections of Parliament Men, or on any other Occasions, how we pay any Regard to those, who do not live constantly among us. It must be of Service, to take publick Notice of those Actions, which tend both, to the Good and Hurt of one's Country; in order to excite us to the Practice of the First, and prevent our being guilty of the Second.

## OF THE TRADE of *IRELAND*.

**I** SHALL now proceed to consider the Trade of *Ireland*, in order to examine, whether the Ballance arising from thence, will enable us to answer those great and constant Draughts upon us from abroad; And also to give such a just Representation of our Commercial Affairs, as that Gentlemen, by being better apprised of the true State of their Country, may be thereby qualified to think on proper Methods and Schemes for improving the same; for surely nothing will so effectually enable Men to take right Measures for the Good of their Country, as to be rightly informed concerning the Trade and true Interest thereof.

I SHALL consider our Trade under the following Heads.

Ist. I SHALL examine what *Ireland* gains or loses, both in respect of its general Trade with all the World, and of its particular Trade, with the several Countries, it has Dealings with.

IIdly. I SHALL particularly take Notice of the Countries, we Trade with, to most Advantage, or Disadvantage.

IIIIdly. I SHALL set forth the great Benefits, which accrue to *England* by the Trade of *Ireland*, and how much it is its Interest to encourage it.

IVthly. I SHALL offer some Hints for the better Improvement and Regulation of our Trade.

As to the first Head, we are to observe, that in order to form a right Judgment of the Trade of any Country,

Country, and whether it gains or loses in its Commerce with any particular Nation, or its Traffick with all Countries, 'tis absolutely necessary to be well inform'd how much Money that Country pays for its Imports, and receives for its Exports, for the Difference of both in Value, is the true Measure of Loss or Gain; if the Exports sell for more than is laid out in purchasing the Imports, or if the Imports cost more than the Exports amount to, the Difference will be return'd in Specie, and is call'd the Ballance.

Tho' it must be Confessed to be very difficult to come to an exact Knowledge of the true Value of all Goods Imported and Exported, in a Country that has an extensive Trade, and has loaded its Imports with high Duties; yet, I hope, we shall be thought to come very near the Truth, by the Means of those Enquiries and Calculations we have made, and especially by the Help of those *Abstracts*, which have been laid from Time to Time before the *House of Commons*, by the Officers of the *Custom-House*, who make up Yearly Accounts of the Quantity and Value of all Commodities Imported and Exported: and having made several Estimates and Observations from the said *Abstracts*, and from Copies of the *Custom-House Books*, which I had an Opportunity of examining very carefully, I shall present them to the Reader in one View for his better Information, judging them the best Foundation we can go upon for forming a just Estimate of our Trade, compar'd with other Nations; and the only Way to Clear up the Mistakes and wrong Notions, which several entertain concerning our Trade with particular Countries; and as there are several Articles, not taken Notice of by the Officers of the *Custom-House*, which ought to be taken into Consideration, when we are drawing up the Ballances of our respective Trades, I shall endeavour to supply them in what follows.

AN ACCOUNT of the Value of the Exports and Imports of *Ireland* for Seven Years ending the 24th of *March* 1720, taken from the *Custom-House Books* in *Dublin*.

In the Year.	Value of Exports in Pounds <i>sterl.</i>	Value of Imports.
1714	1529765	972688
1715	1067913	873044
1716	1255085	875566
1717	1180012	907160
1718	1115304	887758
1719	1038381	891678
1720	859581	683364
	8046041	6091258

Value of Exports at a Medium yearly for said seven Years.

l. s. d.  
1149434 8 7

Value of Imports at a Medium yearly for said seven Years,

870179 14 3½

Ballance yearly in Favour of *Ireland* for said seven Years,

279254 14 3½

AN ACCOUNT of the Value of the Exports  
and Imports of *Ireland* for seven Years ending  
the 24th of *March* 1727.

In the Year	Value of Exports.			Value of Imports		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1721	986	346	14 2	730	558	10 9
1722	1074	269	12 2	829	367	17 2
1723	1090	675	13 5	920	802	11 6
1724	1053	782	13 11	819	761	13 3
1725	1026	537	6 4	889	832	18 5
1726	1017	872	15 4	1030	059	16 4
1727	1062	319	10 9	830	791	10 8
	7311	804 06 01		6051	174 18 1	

Value of Exports at a Medium } 1044543 9 5 $\frac{1}{4}$   
yearly for said seven Years.

Value of Imports at a Medium year- } 864453 11 2  
ly, for said seven Years.

Ballance yearly in Favour of *Ire-* } 180089 18 3 $\frac{1}{4}$   
*land*, for said seven Years.

In the Year.	Value of the Exports from Ireland to Great Britain.			Value of the Imports from Great Britain to Ireland.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1721	452203	12	9	438756	17	6
1722	558400	10	5	535206	5	2
1723	578009	7	1	552859	7	5
1724	497882	15	1	472802	1	8
1725	477972	14	11	540587	6	7
1726	504881	15	4	588024	3	6
1727	462097	14	0	443460	19	6
	3531448	09	7	3571697	01	4

Value of Imports at a Medium year-  
ly, for said seven Years. } *l.* *s.* *d.*  
510242 8 9

Value of Exports at a Medium year-  
ly, for said seven Years. } 504492 12 9

Ballance yearly, in Favour of Great-  
Britain. } 5749 16 0

In the Year.	Value of Exports from <i>Ireland</i> to <i>France</i> .			Value of Imports from <i>France</i> to <i>Ire-</i> <i>land</i> .			
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
1721	121237	10	9	132908	2	3	
1722	122426	10	5	117881	13	3	
1723	176777	8	2	150563	18	3	
1724	214422	17	6	141650	9	5	
1725	205317	7	7	159055	5	2	
1726	137702	10	7	193954	12	6	
1727	179568	12	10	177705	10	9	
	1157452	17	10	1073719	11	7	<i>l. s. d.</i>

Value exported at a Medium year-  
ly, for said seven Years. } 165350 8 3

Value imported at a Medium year-  
ly, for said seven Years. } 153388 10 1

Ballance yearly in Favour of *Ireland*. 11961 18 2

In the Year.	Value of Exports to <i>Denmark, Norway, Hamburg, and Baltick.</i>			Value of Imports from thence.			
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
1721	80700	1	4	49742	7	8	
1722	46531	4	8	54292	0	11	
1723	44951	1	9	67000	9	9	
1724	42049	10	3	74300	8	11	
1725	39574	17	5	59400	3	11	
1726	53211	9	9	67193	7	6	
1727	55189	10	4	75526	1	4	<i>l. s. d.</i>
	362207	15	6	447455	0	0	

Value of Imports at a Medium year-  
ly, for said seven Years. } 63922 2 10

Value of Exports at a Medium year-  
ly, for said seven Years. } 51743 19 4

Ballance yearly against *Ireland.* } 12178 3 6

In the Year.	Value of Exports to <i>Holland and Flanders</i>			Imports from thence			
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
1721	87032	19	11	51187	3	4	
1722	89327	4	1	55624	16	9	
1723	60866	7	7	82224	17	2	
1724	52618	1	1	70048	14	3	
1725	63922	15	3	69206	2	2	
1726	93713	15	6	84048	6	2	
1727	100865	10	4	70031	0	5	
	548346	13	9	492371	0	3	<i>l. s. d.</i>

Value exported at a Medium year-  
ly, for said seven Years. } 78335 4 10

Value imported at a Medium year-  
ly, } 70338 14 4

Ballance yearly in Favour of *Ireland*. } 7996 10 6

In the Year.	Value of Exports to <i>Spain, Portugal, and the Mediteranean.</i>			Imported from thence.			Difference.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1721	1767	68	6	1	579	63	19	11	
1722	1832	39	13	0	563	63	1	0	
1723	1472	65	1	11	681	53	18	9	
1724	1499	84	1	0	609	59	16	11	
1725	1357	51	8	8	615	84	0	6	
1726	1180	49	4	5	968	39	6	6	
1727	1463	53	12	11	640	67	19	6	
	10574	11	8	0	4659	32	3	1	

Value Exported at a Medium year- } 151058 15 5  
ly.

Value Imported at a Medium year- } 66561 14 7  
ly.

Ballance yearly in Favour of *Ireland*. 84497 10

In the Year.	Exported from Ireland to the Plantations. Value.			
		l.	s.	d.
1721	68404	3	2	
1722	74344	9	6	
1723	82806	6	9	
1724	96825	8	10	
1725	103998	2	4	
1726	110313	19	7	
1727	118244	10	1	
	654937	0	3	

Value Exported at a Medium year-ly, } 93562 0 9

**A TABLE** of the Value of the Exports and Imports of *Ireland*, at a Medium yearly, for Seven Years, ending the 24th of *March* 1727.

The Nations to and from which the Exports and Imports are made.	Exports in Value.			Imports in Value.			Ballance.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
<i>Great-Britain</i>	504492	12	9	510242	8	9	5749	16	0
<i>France,</i>	165350	8	3	153388	10	1	11961	18	2
<i>Denmark,</i>									
<i>Norway,</i>									
<i>Hamburg,</i>	51743	19	4	63922	2	10	12178	3	6
<i>and the Baltick.</i>									
<i>Holland and Flanders,</i>	78335	4	10	70338	14	4	7996	10	6
<i>Spain, Portugal, and the Mediterranean.</i>	151058	15	5	66561	14	7	84497	0	10
<i>Plantations.</i>	93562	9	0				93562	9	0
<b>Total-----</b>	<b>1044543</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>864453</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>			

Net Ballance in Favour of *Ireland* at a Medium yearly for said seven Years. } 180089 19 0

**N. B.** All Fractions less than a Penny are omitted, which amount to nine Pence in the whole.

The Value of Imports from all Countries into *Ireland* at a Medium yearly for the last seven Years is, }  $\begin{matrix} \text{\textit{l.}} & \text{\textit{s.}} & \text{\textit{d.}} \\ 864453 & 11 & 2 \end{matrix}$

The Value of Imports from *Great-Britain* at a Medium yearly. }  $\begin{matrix} 510252 & 8 & 9 \end{matrix}$

So that the Imports from *Great Britain* only, are in Value near 5 Parts in 8, of our whole Importations.

The Value of our Exports to all Countries at a Medium yearly for said seven Years. }  $\begin{matrix} 1044543 & 9 & 7 \end{matrix}$

The Value of Exports to *Great Britain* yearly at a Medium, }  $\begin{matrix} 504492 & 12 & 9 \end{matrix}$

Therefore our Exports to *Great Britain* only, are in Value near half of our whole Exportations.

The general Ballance in Favour of *Ireland* at a Medium yearly for seven Years, ending the 24th of *March* 1720, was, }  $\begin{matrix} 279254 & 14 & 3\frac{1}{2} \end{matrix}$

The general Ballance for *Ireland* at a Medium yearly for last seven Years was, }  $\begin{matrix} 180089 & 18 & 3\frac{1}{2} \end{matrix}$

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The yearly Decrease of the Ballance of Trade for last seven Years, }  $\begin{matrix} 99164 & 16 & 0 \end{matrix}$

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Value of Imports in 1726,  $\begin{matrix} 1030059 & 16 & 4\frac{1}{2} \end{matrix}$   
 Value of Exports in 1726,  $\begin{matrix} 1017872 & 15 & 4 \end{matrix}$

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Ballance against *Ireland*, in 1726  $\begin{matrix} 12187 & 1 & 0\frac{1}{2} \end{matrix}$

THUS

THUS far we are instructed by the *Custom-House Books*, concerning the Value of our Commodities Imported and Exported, and the respective Ballances, depending thereon, and find that the Ballance in our Favour of all our Trade in general, taken at a Medium yearly, for the last seven Years ending the 24th of *March* 1727, amounts to 180089*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*

IT is proper to take Notice of the Manner of Valuation practis'd by the proper Officers who (as I am well inform'd) value all our Exports at a Medium of the Price Current in our Markets at home; and all the Imports, at the mean Rate we are suppos'd to pay for them to other Countries; And to do Justice to the Care and Skill of the Officers, we must observe, that of late Years, they are, for the most Part, pretty exact, and right in their Valuations; their Books shew that they have made it their Business to be well inform'd by Merchants, and other Dealers, of the Current Rates of Commodities both at Home and Abroad.

IT must be own'd, that this Manner of Valuation, will not give us the true Ballances of our Trade with other Countries; for though in respect to the Imports, no Alteration is to be made in the Value of them, on the Supposition that we rate them no higher, than the prime Cost we pay for them to other Countries, yet we must add to the Value of our Exports, whatever we sell them for Abroad, more than they are rated for at Home; this Additional Value arises from the Duty and Charges of Exportation, the Freight, Expence and Profit of Merchants, which in long Voyages are very Considerable, and enhance the Price of Commodities to the Gain of that Nation, in whose Ships, and on whose Account these Goods are Exported.

To adjust these Articles, that are either to be added to, or substracted from the respective Balances, as they are settled by our *Custom-House Officers*, is very difficult, and requires the Knowledge of many Particulars, not easily to be come at; however I shall endeavour to give all the Satisfaction, I am able, from such Lights, and Information, as I have had in this Affair, and in the first Place I shall lay down an Estimate of the Tunnage of Shipping, employ'd in the Trade of *Ireland* for several Years.

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A N



## AN ESTIMATE of the Tunnage of Ship

In the Year	Number of Ships.	<i>Irish</i> Tuns	<i>English</i> Tuns.	<i>Scotch</i> Tuns
1721	3499	35006	94177	15739
1722	3657	33212	218299	18355
1723	4012	42136	96440	19247
1724	3833	39085	95980	19095
1725	3461	36795	92321	18098
1726	3703	43089	103961	19882
1727	3494	40469	99394	15648
Totals. --	25659	269792	800572	126064
At a Medium yearly. }	3665 <sup>4</sup>	38541 <sup>2</sup>	114367 <sup>2</sup>	18009 <sup>7</sup>

ping employed in the Trade of *IRELAND*.

<i>Dutch</i> Tuns.	<i>East Coun-</i> <i>try</i> Tuns.	<i>French</i> Tuns.	<i>Spanish</i> Tuns.	Totals—
8641	3244	1384	231	158422
11201	2444	2868	115	286494
9292	3915	2751	205	173986
967	12318	1989	511	169925
11870	2179½	775½	365	162404
12266	1910	2400	432	183940
12086	2543	2652	401	173193
66323	28553½	14819½	2260	1308364
9474½	4079¼	2117¼	322⅙	186909⅓

THIS

THIS Estimate shews us, what Share we ourselves, as well as other Countries have in the Shipping employ'd in the Exportation and Importation of our Commodities; but what Proportion of those Commodities are exported or imported on the Account of our own Merchants, is not so easy to ascertain; but upon the best Enquiry I have been able to make, I judge, that at a Medium the third Part of the Value of our whole Exports, may be the Proportion that our Merchants Export on their own Accounts, and that a Profit of 12*l. per Cent.* at a Medium, may be allowed to arise from this Part of our Exportation, including the Freight of our own Shipping: Upon this Supposition, the Gain accruing to the Kingdom thereby, will, by an Allowance of 12*l. per Cent.* for the Sum of 348500*l.* (which is the third Part of our whole Exportation) amount to 41800*l. per Ann.* and if we should be concerned in half the Value of our Exports, or that the Gain arising from thence should be 18 *per Cent.* as some imagine, then a Profit of 93960*l.* must be brought into the Account.

THIS surplus Profit arises from that Part of our Exports, which we send Abroad on our own Accounts, and sell for so much more Abroad, than they are rated at Home; and must be added in our Favour, to the yearly Ballance of 180089*l.* 19*s.* stated by the Custom-House-Officers; and in Case those Officers should have rated our Imports higher than we paid for them to Foreigners, the Overplus ought to be deducted from the Value of the Imports set down by them, which will increase the Ballance in our Favour; and, on the contrary, the Overplus ought to be added to the Value of our Imports, if they have under-rated them, which will lessen the Ballance: But tho' it would be agreeable to find the Ballance of Trade enlarge in our Favour, from so considerable an Addition to it, arising from some Articles,

Articles, which could not come within the Province of the Custom-House-Officers, yet, upon Examination, I am afraid we shall find a great Drawback upon us, and be oblig'd to abate a great deal of that suppos'd Ballance, and perhaps reduce it lower than the Ballance stated by the Custom-House, when we consider the great Quantity of Goods, which are yearly run into the Kingdom, without any Entry in the Custom-House Books or Duty paid for the same, for which we paid Value abroad.

'Tis impossible to ascertain the Value of this clandestine Importation, but the fair Trader complains of great Quantities of all Sorts of *East-India* Commodities, Silks, Tobacco, Wine, &c. imported by Stealth; and of late we have discover'd a long Scene of Running of Brandy, even in our *Metropolis*, where Officers abound, and are under the immediate Eye of the Commissioners; and yet neither the Trusts, nor Oaths, Penalties, or Number of Officers were sufficient Checks to prevent their being brib'd by the Runners; if 'tis so difficult to prevent this sort of Traffick in *Dublin*, what Quantities must we suppose to be privately imported in the other Parts of the Kingdom, in a Compass of near 800 Miles in Circuit, abounding in Harbours and Creeks, where neither the Number or Care of Officers can be sufficient, to prevent these clandestine Conveyances; and tho' such sort of People, are by a late Act of Parliament depriv'd of the Use of the *Isle of Man* for carrying on this Traffick, yet how easy is it to shift the Scene of this pernicious Dealing, when the Profit shall countervail all Hazards, as it always does, where the Duties are high; but whatever is the yearly Ballance on our Side by Trade, whether 180000*l.* or 280000*l.* or more, yet all this falls very much short of answering, that immoderate and unprofitable Drain of Money, we labour under, to support our Gentry abroad; what-  
ever

ever Gain we make in any Part of the World, is immediately carry'd off by this Flux, which has already consum'd the greatest Part of our Capital Stock, as appears by that universal Face of Poverty, which is spread over the Nation.

I SHALL close this Head, with an Observation, which may pass for a political Axiom, *that one of the greatest Evils, which can befall any Country, is to have the Gentlemen of Estate, and Employment desert it, and spend the Profits thereof abroad.*

UNDER the second Head I shall take Notice of the Countries we Trade with; to most Advantage or Disadvantage.

AND I shall lay down the following Rules, as a Foundation, to judge by.

I. THAT is the most advantageous Trade, which takes off the greatest Quantity of the Produce of a Country, and especially of its Manufactures, and which imports fewest Commodities, and those capable of farther Improvement; in which Case there will be the greatest Return in Specie to make up the Ballance.

II. ON the contrary, that is the most disadvantageous Trade, which takes off the smallest Quantity of the Produce of a Country, and that unmanufactured, and in Return imports the greatest Quantity of Commodities for Luxury, and fully wrought up, in which Case the Imports will most exceed the Exports in Value.

ACCORDING to this Rule, we shall find the Trade of *England* of great Importance to us, since it takes off above the Value of 500000*l.* yearly, which is near the Half of all our Exports, and among the rest, the greatest Part of our Linnen Manufactures.

T I S

'Tis true, the *English* take from us all our Wool<sup>l</sup>, Worsted, Woollen and Linnen-Yarn, which they work up to their great Advantage, and Import to us in Manufactures fully wrought up, near the full Value of all we Export to them.

OUR Trade to *Spain*, *Portugal*, and the *Mediterranean* is very beneficial to us; since it carries off yearly to the Value of 151000*l.* in our Commodities, and in Return, we have from thence near three Parts in five of the Value return'd in Specie.

*HOLLAND* and *Flanders* take from us to the Value of 78000*l.* yearly in the simple Produce of the Country, principally in Raw Hides; which they Tann, and in great Quantities of Butter; and in Return, they send us the Value of 70000*l.* in *Hollands*, *Cambricks*, *Madder*, and other Commodities, most of which we could furnish ourselves with, from our own Industry, if proper Measures were taken.

WE send to *Hamburg*, *Norway*, and the *Baltick* yearly to the Value of 52000*l.* and import from thence to the Value of 64000*l.* so that there lies a Ballance of 12000*l.* yearly against us; but considering that our Imports from thence consist principally of Deal Boards, Timber of all Sorts, Iron, Hemp, and Naval Stores, which we cannot be without, or supply ourselves with cheaper elsewhere; we must be content with that Trade on the Foot it stands.

As to the Trade of *France*, by the Custom-House Books, (from which I always take such Estimates and Valuations as are herein mention'd) the Value of our Exports thither yearly at a Medium of the last seven Years, amounts unto 165000*l.* and our Imports from thence to 153000*l.* per Ann. by which we seem to have a Ballance on our Side yearly of 12000*l.* but if we make Allowances for great Quantities of Silken Manufacture, Brandy, and many other expensive Articles, clandestinely imported from thence from Time to Time, we shall find I am afraid, a

considerable Ballance lie against us, as appears plainly from a constant Course of Exchange in Favour of *France*.

WE find by the Custom-House Books, that the Importation of *French* Wines has increased so much of late Years, that there is a third Part more now imported than used to be twelve Years ago, notwithstanding the prime Cost thereof has been considerably raised upon our Merchants in *France*, and the Price thereof increased much more on our Consumers at home.

IT may be therefore adviseable to put a Stop to this immoderate Consumption of *French* Wine, by laying an additional Duty thereon, which will have this good Effect that we shall thereby save a great deal of Money to the Kingdom yearly, and at the same Time increase the Consumption of the Produce of the Country, and consequently our home Excise.

MANY are of Opinion, that the *French* Trade, is very detrimental to this Country. 1<sup>st</sup>, Because our Importations from thence consist principally of Wine and Brandy, which are Materials for Luxury, and not for Use. 2<sup>dly</sup>, Because the *French* will take no Manufactures from us, not even a Tann'd Hide, nor any other Produce of our Country, but what is useful either for their Manufactures at home, or necessary for the Support of their *American* Plantations abroad.

BUT then we ought to consider, that it appears from the Quantity of our Commodities exported to *France*, at a Medium yearly for seven Years ending 1726, taken from the Custom-House Books, that the *French* take from us one Year with another two Parts in five of all our Tallow, above one third of all our Butter, a fourth Part of our raw Hides, and above one third Part of all our Beef, which last Commodity may otherwise lie a Drug upon our Hands, since no other foreign Nation has Occasion for the  
same,

same, either for their own Consumption, or for the Use of their Colonies; we should also consider that we have been long used to the Drinking of Wine, and in all Likelihood will not fail to continue the Use of it, and that we can't have Wines so cheap from other Countries, and that the Duty laid thereon is a great Support to our Establishment; for these Reasons we can't think this Trade so very detrimental as some would make it: It could be wish'd indeed, that proper Representations were made to the *French*, to make them sensible that we shew more Favour to them in the Duties on Wine, than to any other Nation; and that, in Return, we might reasonably expect some Favour, in our Trade with them, with Respect to the Duties on our Commodities, and not to be treated, as we are at present, with as great Severity, as those Nations are, who lay very high Duties, and even Prohibitions on their Commodities.

3dly, **I** SHALL now consider the great Benefits which accrue to *England* by the Trade of *Ireland*, and how much it is its Interest to encourage it, which I shall endeavour to make appear in the following Particulars.

1st, It appears from the Custom-House Books, that the Value of our Importations from all Countries, at a Medium yearly for the last seven Years, amounts to 864453 *l.* 10 *s.* 7 *d.* and that the Imports from *Great-Britain* alone amount to 510242 *l.* 8 *s.* 9 *d.* which is near five Parts in eight of our whole Importations, and they consist chiefly of Woollen and Silken Manufactures, Coffee, Tea, Callicoes, Muslins, Tobacco, Sugar, Coals, Hops, Bark, Iron-Ware, and Glass-Ware, &c. all which are Commodities work'd up to the Height; and I believe that

upon Examination, it will be found that we take off a much greater Quantity of the several Manufactures of *England*, except their Woollen, than any other Country in *Europe*.

2dly, WHEREAS 'tis commonly judg'd, that the Importation of foreign Goods is a Loss to the Nation that receives them; since otherwise Bullion would be return'd in Lieu thereof: We shall find on the contrary, that *England* receives a vast Benefit by all the Goods we send them; for the Wool, Woollen-Yarn, and Worsted, which they have from us yearly to the Quantity of between 2 and 300000 Stones, at 18 Pound Weight the Stone, and for which they pay us about 130000*l.* when fully manufactured by the People of *England* will sell for 500000 at least in foreign Markets, which is a Benefit that would otherwise accrue to the People of *Ireland*, had not *England* reserv'd the Manufacture and Profit thereof to themselves.

IN like Manner they receive from us yearly, as appears from the Entries in our Custom-House Books, taken at a Medium yearly for seven Years ending the 24th of *March* 1726, to the Value of 92752*l.* in Linnen-Yarn, which when work'd up into Tickings, Tapes, Girths, and many other Sorts of Manufactures in *England*, become thereby worth 100000*l.* more than their first Cost.

THEY also take from us great Quantities of Raw Hides, Tallow, and Linnen, which they Export to foreign Countries, and their Plantations to great Advantage.

3dly, It appears from the Estimate of the Tunnage of Shipping, employ'd yearly in the Trade of *Ireland*, before set forth, that whereas the whole Tunnage amounts at a Medium yearly to 186909 Tuns, the *English* and *Scotch* Tunnage so employ'd comes to 132376 Tuns, which is more than Two-thirds of the Whole, and allowing but Nine Shillings

lings Gain on each Tun at a Medium, which is very moderate, there arises a yearly Profit of 59562*l.* 4*s.* to the *English* and *Scotch*, on this Article of Freight only in the *Irish* Trade.

4<sup>thly</sup>, OUR Exportations, as well as our Freight being principally carry'd on the Account of *English* Merchants, there arises a very considerable Profit to them on this Article, which is commonly estimated to be double the Freight, to make good Expences, Ensurance, and Merchants Profits ; but being willing to be under the real Value in these Computations, it may be reasonably allowed that a Profit of 80000*l.* accrues to *England* yearly on this Article of the *Irish* Trade.

5<sup>thly</sup>, To all these Advantages, we are to add the greatest of all, which arises from our Lords and Gentlemen of Estate and Employment living and spending all their Incomes abroad, to the Value of 5 or 600000*l.* yearly, whereof the greatest Part is consum'd in *England*, and may be reckon'd as so much clear Gain to it, without the least Value return'd for the same.

THIS plainly appears from the List of *Absentees*, hereunto prefix'd, wherein the Names of the Persons, and the yearly Value of their Estates, Employments, and Pensions spent abroad, are particularly mention'd ; and for this Reason, because it would be impossible to convince the World, that so much of our Substance is carry'd off by this Channel, by any other Method, than by pointing out the Persons to whom, and the Estates from whence those Drains are made ; but now every one, on examining the Particulars contain'd in the said List, which have been collected with great Pains into one View, may satisfy himself, whether they are truly set forth or not ; 'tis but enquiring whether such and such Persons, do not generally live abroad, or were out of the Kingdom, at the Time mention'd ; and whether they

they have not Estates or Employments to the Value set forth, and spend the same abroad ; and I am confident, that tho' in some few Particulars, I might be misinform'd and over rate some Articles, yet it will be found that I have under-rated others much more, having it always in my Intention to be rather under, than over ; and that I have omitted several, which will occur upon reading, to every ones Observation ; and that upon the Whole, those Drains, we labour under, are much more than I have estimated them.

MR. *Davenant*, in his Discourses on the *Plantation* Trade, p. 221. asserts, that the Trade of *England* arriv'd at its greatest Heighth in 1688, at which Time he computes, the national Profit arising from foreign Trade, and home Manufactures to have been two Millions yearly ; the Particulars whereof are as follow :

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Gain'd by the <i>Plantation</i> Trade,	600000		
By the <i>East-India</i> Trade,	500000		
By the <i>European, African, and Levant</i>	600000		
Trade on the home Product,			
By Re-exports of <i>Plantation</i> Goods,	120000		
By Re-exports of <i>India</i> Goods,	180000		
	<hr/>		
In all	2000000		

MR. *Davenant* was suspected to be too partial to the *East-India* Trade ; for which Reason many oppos'd him, and would not allow that *England* gain'd one Million yearly at that Time, and some insisted that *England* was then a great Loofer, by a large Ballance on the Side of the *French* Trade ; and indeed if the Trade of *England* had been in such a flourishing Condition, as to have gain'd at last two Millions yearly, that must have appear'd in a proportionable

portionable Increase of the current Specie, and swell'd it up at the Revolution to 30 or 40 Millions, but upon the Recoinage of their Money, it was computed by Mr. *Davenant* and others, that the current Specie did not exceed 18 Millions: But whatever Gain the Nation had formerly, I am afraid it has much less now; for considering the great Loss of Treasure sent abroad, to support the Wars, in the Reigns of King *William* and Queen *Anne*, the Interruptions and Losses by Trade, in that Time, and considering the great Load of high Duties, Taxes and Prohibitions, that lie very heavy on all its foreign and domestick Commerce; I believe, that the most sanguine will not pretend that *England* gains at present a Million by all its Traffick; and even half of that Sum is sent off yearly to pay Foreigners, the Interest of the Money, they have in the publick Funds, which is reasonably judg'd to be no less than ten Millions.

If this be the Case of *England*, as I am afraid it is, then it clearly follows, that *England* gains by *Ireland* alone, half as much yearly as it does by all the World besides; this Channel of Wealth has enabled *England* all along to support two most expensive Wars abroad, and to lay up Treasure at home in Time of Peace; whatever the People of *Ireland* get by hard Labour, and poor Living at home, or by their Industry and Hazards abroad; all is immediately conveyed to *England* to maintain our Gentlemen there.

AND notwithstanding *Ireland* has parted with all its Substance, and reduc'd it self to the greatest Poverty, to enrich *England*, yet there are some *Englishmen*, who being ignorant of the Case of *Ireland*, and of the Advantages, it brings to them, upon all Occasions represent us, as having Interests incompatible with theirs, and carrying on Trades destructive of the *English* Commerce; whereas 'tis evident

dent to all considering impartial Persons, that there is no Country in *Europe*, that brings so much Profit to another as *Ireland* does to *England*, and therefore 'tis the real Interest and Policy of *England* to cherish, and encourage this her younger Sister, all whose Acquisitions are sure to flow into her Bosom; for tho' our People were more fully employ'd, and our Exports enlarg'd, tho' our Gains from other Nations by a greater Liberty of Trade should be much more considerable than they are, yet we should not thereby be one Jot the richer, since no Part of this Wealth would stay with us, but would run off in the great *Drain* of Remittances to our *Absentees* to enrich *England*.

THE necessary and luxurious Importations of *England* are excessive, and fall very little short of its Exports in Value, each of them being computed at between 5 and 6 Millions yearly.

IF most Part of the *Bullion*, which *England* gains from *Spain* and *Portugal*, is sent away to the *East-Indies*, and to answer the Ballances that lie against it in the *Northern* Trades, and the Demands also of Foreigners, who have great Shares in the Publick Funds, as many imagine to be the Case; it will need other Resources and Means to encrease its Wealth; These are furnished to it from those Countries, which depend upon it, namely the *Plantations* and *Ireland*, the *Plantations* enrich it, by their Commodities, which are re-exported to other Countries, and *Ireland* by its continual Remittances in Money.

'Tis certain that the *Plantations* are a great Addition of Wealth to *England*; the Labour of the *Negroes*, about 200000 in Number, costs little, and the Profit thereof is great, and centers at last in *England*: No Part of the Money which the *Planters* get from the *Spaniards*, stays with them, but flows to *England*, as fast as it enters in; and whenever a *Planter* has made his Fortune, he seldom fails to  
Transport

Transport all his Effects, and Family to *England*, which he reckons his Home; 'tis therefore the Interest of *England* to promote and encourage the Trade of *their Plantations*, and not suffer any Obstruction or Difficulty, to be thrown upon it, (at the Instance of private Traders, and Manufacturers who may find their own Account in it) to the Prejudice of the Nation, which will always be enrich'd by the *Plantations*, in proportion as they grow in Wealth, and lose, as they grow Poor.

OUR Case is much the same with the *Plantations* the Produce, and Profit of all our Labour issues constantly to the People of *England*, and therefore 'tis its Interest to give the People of *Ireland* full Employment, to encourage their Industry in every Branch of Trade, and not to stop any Inlett through which Treasure may come into it, since every Acquisition and Profit that we can make, will at last center among them; if they would look upon us with the same Favour, and in the same Light as they ought to do their *Plantations*, they would justly reckon us, a main Foundation of their Wealth and think it not consistent with their Interest to cramp our Industry, or render our Labour trifling and insignificant.

UPON a candid and fair Enquiry and Reasoning, it will be found that there is no Trade or Manufacture that *England* is possessed of, but it is for its Advantage to let the People of *Ireland* into the full Enjoyment of it; not excepting the Woollen Manufacture, the principal Foundation of all their Trade, and which they are so jealous of, and Value at so high a Rate.

THIS Assertion may seem a strange Paradox to several Persons, but I think may be supported with many good Reasons, but I shall first take Notice of, and examine the Grounds of those Complaints, which are frequently rais'd by some in *England*, of

the Transportation of great Quantities of Wooll, and Woollen Manufacture from *Ireland* to *France*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*, to the great Prejudice of their Woollen Trade, by the Sale of *Irish* Stuffs, or *French* Manufacture made of *Irish* Wooll; and as a Proof of this 'tis urg'd, that the Quantity of Wooll transported from hence to *England* is much diminish'd of late Years, and therefore they conclude, that all the Wooll that is wanting to make up the former Quantities, is Run to *France*.

THEY say further that they have discover'd a Clandestine Trade in carrying great Quantities of Serges, and Wollen Goods to *Lisbon*, and other Places, of which they have given us invidious Accounts in the Publick Prints.

IN answer to this, it must be own'd, that there is not so great a Quantity of Wooll, exported to *England* of late Years, as us'd to be; but this Diminution is easy accounted for, and it is not owing to the running of Wooll, but arises principally from the following Causes,

1<sup>st</sup>, THAT in the *North* of *Ireland* there are hardly any Sheep now to be found, since the Inhabitants are grown very Numerous, and have apply'd themselves principally to the Linnen Manufactures, and sowing of Corn for their Subsistence; so that they are forc'd to supply themselves with Wooll and Mutton from other Provinces.

2<sup>dly</sup>, IN other Parts of the Kingdom, the Farmers finding that Wooll, lay under a great Discouragement, and could not afford a Profit answerable to the high Price of Lands, have generally lessened their Flocks of Sheep, and employ'd their Lands to other Uses, which turn to a better Account, such as feeding black Cattle, keeping Dairies, plowing for Corn, Rape, Hemp, and Flax, &c. for which they find a ready Market abroad; whereas they are not allow'd

at all to export their Wooll manufactured; nor even unmanufactured but to a few Ports in *England*,

3dly, WE are further to Consider that the People of *Ireland* are much encreas'd in Numbers, and are fallen into a greater Wear and Use of their own Manufactures, and consequently must Consume a greater Quantity of their Wooll.

4thly, THE Sheep of *Ireland* are subject to the Rot, from the Wetness of the Seasons, and Moisture of the Climate, and as such Seasons are frequent, and the Destruction of Sheep thereby very great; whenever this happens, it requires a good many Years to repair the Loss.

WE see this Diminution might have happen'd, tho' we should not have run one Stone of Wooll, and 'tis likely this Diminution will still encrease; for what Motive can we have to deal in a Commodity, which we are not allow'd to export or manufacture to Advantage, and only to make our selves Shepherds for *England*; this Cause of Complaint is like to fall soon to the Ground, since we find it our Interest to lessen our Number of Sheep, and to keep no more of them than are necessary for our own Consumption; and then probably we shall be courted to return to our Flocks again.

IT can't be deny'd that some Wooll and Stuffs are run out of the Kingdom, and 'tis impossible altogether to prevent it, in such a wide extended Coast, full of Creeks, notwithstanding the Vigilance and Care of the Officers, who are perhaps the strictest in the Execution of this Part of their Office, of any in *Europe*; and we see that in *England* all their Laws, and Endeavours, can't prevent this mischievous Traffick; 'tis remarkable that one of our Merchants having observ'd many Packs of Wooll Landed in the *West of England* from *Ireland*, soon after saw the same Packs, Landed in one of the Ports of *France*, where he happen'd to come, and knew them  
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by their Marks ; and upon Enquiry made in the Ports of *France*, it was found that a greater Quantity of Wooll was Imported thither from *England* than from *Ireland*.

IF any Woollen Manufacture is Clandestinely carry'd from hence to *Portugal* or *Spain*, (for *France* will take nothing but Wooll) the Quantity can't be great ; the Hazards on Exportation are so many, and Forfeiture so great, that it is hardly worth any ones while to venture ; and as such Exporters are generally poor, they must sell for what they can get, and perhaps their selling their Goods at a low Rate, tho' in a small Quantity, has given the greatest Offence ; and for that Reason the *French* and *Dutch*, will be as ready to join in the Outcry, as the *English*.

WE ought to consider that Trade has been at a Stand, and that there has been little Vent for Woollen Manufactures, these two Years past, which has been occasion'd principally by our Difference with *Spain* ; in such a Crisis, the *English* Merchants are apt to assign many wrong Causes, besides the true ones, for the Decay of their Trade, and among others are ready to bring in the People of *Ireland* for their Share in it ; but we are very sensible at home, that our Weavers are starving for Want of Employment, and at the same time Import a great deal of Woollen Manufacture from *England*, which is no Sign that we export great Quantities thereof abroad ; but whatever *Irish* Woollen Manufacture is sold abroad, all the Money got thereby is soon remitted to the People of *England*, who are so far from being Losers, that they are great Gainers by this Traffick, which some reckon so pernicious.

IF the *French* or any other Foreigners should sell all their Goods at the same Market abroad, that *England* does, and remit all the Money arising from thence to *England* to be spent there, will any Body say, that so much is not clear Gain to *England*, tho' some

some of its Merchants may possibly suffer a little thereby, in the Sale of their Goods?

THIS is the very Case of *Ireland*, so much complain'd of, which leads me to make good my Assertion, that it is the Interest of *England* to leave the Woollen Trade free and open to the People of *Ireland*.

If *Ireland* was the only Country, besides *England*, which produc'd Wooll, it would then be in the Power of *England*, and its Interest by Restrictions laid upon us, to reserve the whole Trade to themselves; and we should readily acquiesce and submit to those Laws, however severe they may otherwise be thought; but the Case is much otherwise, *Spain* produces great Quantities of fine Wool, and all the other Parts of *Europe* raise a great deal of the Course and a considerable Parcel of the fine Sort; so that they don't want Materials for Woollen Manufacture; stopping the Door upon *Ireland* is only hedging in the Cuckow, and has only serv'd to open and enlarge that Trade in foreign Countries, by driving great Numbers of our Weavers to *France*, and other Places, where they have set up the same Trade, and thereby have done *England* much more Prejudice, than if they had staid at home, and were allow'd to export their Woollen Manufactures.

WE find by *fact* Experience, that since the Revolution the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Germans* have encouraged and cultivated their Woollen Manufactures to a great Heighth, and still go on in improving the same; and by the Cheapness of Labour and Provisions are able to undersell the *English* already in their own and foreign Markets; The *French* have thereby in a great Measure ingrossed the Woollen Trade in *Turkey* and the *Mediterranean*, which was formerly carry'd on by the *English*; and many Provinces in *Germany* now supply themselves with their own Manufactures, which they likewise had formerly from *England*:

*land*: We find also, that since the Ministries of *Alberoni* and *Ripperda*, the *Spaniards* have either out of Revenge or Policy prosecuted the Woollen Trade with such Vigour, that they now cloath their Armies, with their own Manufactures, and in Imitation of the Court, the Nobility and better Sort, are cloath'd the same Way; and that *English* Bays, which us'd to be the common Wear of the Country, is not now made Use of there; if this Humour goes on, the *Spaniards* may in Time prohibit the Exportation of their Wooll, the principal Ingredient of the fine Drapery of *England*.

THIS is a very disagreeable Scene of Affairs, which should inspire the *English*, with Resolutions of taking other Measures to mend their Condition; they see the *French*, *Dutch*, and others have rivall'd and even worm'd them out of a great Part of their Woollen Trade, and they are in Danger of being driven out of the best Part of what Remains, unless some new Course be taken to retrieve their Woollen Trade; which can be done no other Way than by being able to undersell the *French* and *Dutch* in foreign Markets; for it is a Maxim, which always holds good, that he commands the Market, who sells best and cheapest; this is what the *English* cannot do of themselves, considering the high Price of Labour, Taxes, and Manner of living in *England*, which lie heavy on their Manufactures, and make them come dearer to any foreign Market than those of other Countries, which rival them; but if they should think proper to employ the People of *Ireland*, in making any Part of their Woollen Manufactures, and especially such Sorts of them, as they are rivall'd in by others, they would soon be able to drive the *French* and *Dutch* out of any Branch of foreign Trade, by selling cheaper, and better Commodities than they.

AND this we have Reason to believe would be  
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the Case, considering that the Price of Labour and Provisions in *Ireland* is very low, and that the People are industrious, and live poor, and cheap, and have no Taxes on their Consumptions; there is no Way left for the People of *England* to recover any lost Trade, but by the same Ways and Means whereby others got it from them, which is by selling cheaper than their Neighbours; nor is there any Course left to bring that about, but by taking in the Assistance of the People of *Ireland*, and employing their Hands in such Manner, and such Work as they shall find most convenient.

If for Instance, the *Turkey* Merchants were allow'd to work up in *Ireland*, such sort of Goods, as the *French* sell in *Turkey*, and to export them directly thither; and could by underselling the *French*, dispose of a much greater Quantity of such Goods, than they do at present, would not this be apparently for the Benefit of *England*? the greatest Part of the Profit would redound to the *English* Merchants, and the poor *Irish* Manufacturer would be only employ'd in the most laborious and least gainful Part of the Work, and thereby get a bare Livelihood; 'tis the *English* Merchants, who have Stocks of Money, and could employ the poor People of *Ireland*, that would have the Benefit of all their Labour, and if the *Irish* should themselves gain a little by this Work, and by being instrumental in increasing their Wealth, even that little would not stay with us but be carry'd off, as all our Wealth is, to maintain our Gentlemen in *England*.

If under the present Discouragements, Hazards, and Forfeitures, some of our People will venture to carry some Woollen Goods to *Portugal* and *Spain*, and be able to undersell all others there, for which no doubt the *French* and *Dutch* are as much set against us on this Account as some *English*; this shews to a Demonstration, that the *English*, by the Help  
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of *Irish* Labour and Industry, could be able to undersell all others, and drive them out of foreign Markets ; in obtaining which Advantage, and keeping it afterwards, they may have full Employment for their own People, as well as the People of *Ireland* ; and 'tis certainly more for the Advantage of *England*, that the People of *Ireland* should have a Share in this Trade, than that Foreigners should run away with it ; since every Addition to our Wealth will enlarge our Remittances to *England*.

WE do not in the least imagine or expect, that the People of *England* will come into any Indulgence of this Kind for our Sakes ; but if it is apparently, for the Advantage of *England*, 'tis to be presumed, they will not be blind to their own Interest, or neglect any Expedients, or Means, for encreasing the Trade or Riches of their Kingdom, tho' they may seemingly interfere with the Interest of particular Companies, or Traders ; for my own Part, as I have some small Estate in both Countries, I am perswaded as an *Englishman*, that a proper Use of the Labour, and Industry of the People of *Ireland*, is the best and surest Fund to encrease the Wealth of *England*.

4thly, **I** SHALL now offer some Hints, and Proposals for the Improvement and Regulation of our Trade.

BUT am forc'd to premise what I have to say, with this Melancholly Reflection, that as long as this wasteful Export of our Treasure continues, and carries off every Acquisition we can make, it will be in vain to offer any Expedients for encreasing our Manufactures, lessening our Imports, or Improving our Trade ; for every Inlet of Wealth, we can make, will be too little to feed and satisfy this devouring Drain, which will ever keep us poor and miserable.

It must very much affect every one, who wishes well to this Country, to consider that all our Toil and Labour can avail us nothing, and will only serve to continue that *Evil* upon us, which is the Cause of all our Poverty: for Poor we must *ever* be, so long as all the Advantages, we can make by our Industry and Trade, fall so much short of our Remittances Abroad. If we must be always Poor, 'tis better to enjoy Poverty with Ease, than to sweat, and toil, without any Hopes of mending our Condition, and without any other Effect than that of supporting the Vanity of our Gentlemen Abroad, who treat their Country with Contempt, and ruin it without Remorse.

BUT as I am not without Hopes, that some Measures will be thought of and soon put in Execution, that may in some Degree, remove our present Grievances, and go to the Bottom of the Evil; I shall on that Account humbly offer some Hints, which may be improv'd to good Purposes, by others of greater Abilities, or may put them on thinking on better Ways and Means of serving their Country.

*Ist*, I SHALL say nothing of our Linnen Manufacture, which is already brought to a great Degree of Perfection, and still continues improving under the happy Direction, and Regulation of the TRUSTEES, who have done the greatest Good to the Nation by the small Fund, vested in them for the Improvement of the Linnen and Hempen Manufacture, perhaps ten Times more than the Value of that Fund amounts unto; and we might promise ourselves, much greater Advantages from their good Management, if their Fund was made double or treble what it is at present; by which they might be enabled to set on foot, and Cultivate *the making of Paper, Lace, Cambric*, and several other Manufactures and Trades, which we are well qualify'd to carry on, and which require Instruction in the Beginning, and Encouragement to overcome the Difficulties and Losses,

which always attend the first Attempts in every Invention and Trade.

2d, THERE are Imported yearly from *Great Britain* in *English* and *Scotch* Ships between 60 and 70 Thousand Tuns of Coals, according to the *Custom-House Books*, for which we pay in Ready Money about 50000 *l.* which Sum is immediately carry'd off in Specie, and the Ships return home empty ; others not without good Reason make the Quantity of Coals Imported to be near a third Part more : We are apt to complain, of the Colliers carrying off so much of our Money, which we more sensibly feel in the Loss of our Silver ; and yet 'tis our own Fault that we lose so much by them ; since it is in our own Power to save near half of the Expence, by becoming our own Carriers, or importing the Coals in our own Shipping, whereby we might gain the Freight and Merchants Profit, and pay only, eight Shillings per Tun for all the Cost abroad.

WE are supply'd with Coals from *Erwin*, *Salt-coats*, and lately from *Aran* in *Scotland*, from *Whitehaven*, *Workinton*, *Parton*, and *Mossfon* in *England*, from *Flint*, *Swansey*, and other Places in *Wales* ; this Conveniency of being supply'd from so many Places, will prevent or defeat any Combinations to our Prejudice ; and as we may foresee, that an Attempt to Import these Coals our selves, may probably be oppos'd by the Colliers, Masters, and Owners of the Shipping now employ'd in that Trade, who may be apprehensive that they may lose their Bread thereby ; it may be adviseable for the People of *Ireland*, to buy up several of those Ships, and employ the same Masters, and Seamen, who will be as well satisfy'd, provided they are still employ'd and well paid.

IT wou'd be a great Advantage and Credit to the City of *Dublin*, if the Citizens wou'd by Mortgage of the City Revenue raise 6 or 7000 *l.* and therewith purchase yearly at the cheapest Time about 10000 Tun

Tun of Coals, and lay them up in several Parts of the City, for the Conveniency of the Inhabitants, and oblige themselves to sell them in the Winter at 18*s.* per Tun; for such a Stock of Coals to be sold at that Rate, would defeat the Designs of Ingrossers, and Colliers, prevent extravagant Prices, and relieve the Poor, and at the same Time would afford a Profit, that would much more than answer the Interest of the Money thus rais'd.

ALL Attempts for discovering Mines of Coal, and conveying them by Water Carriage to the Places of Consumption, ought to be encourag'd; we hope the Design of making a navigable Communication between *Dungannon* and *Newry* may succeed, that thereby we may be furnished with Coals of our own Country for our Consumption.

WE have of late discovered Coal-Mines in the Counties of *Cork* and *Leitrim*, and in *August* last in the County of *Kilkenny*, within two Miles of *Leighlin* Bridge, and the River *Barrow*, with a Descent all the Way to it; these last Coals may be carry'd down the *Barrow* in Lighters to *Ross* and *Waterford*, and there shipp'd off to *Dublin*; where considering the Lastingness of the Coal, (which will make them better for the Kitchen) they may be had cheaper than Coals from *Whitehaven*, or any other Place Abroad.

A FUND of 3 or 4000 *l.* would be sufficient to carry on that Work, and supply the City of *Dublin* with several thousand Tuns of that Coal in a Year, and 'tis hop'd some Persons will be found that will enter into the Design.

3*d*, WE Import to the Value of 48235 *l.* in Hops, at a Medium yearly, for four Years ending *March* 24 1726. which is near as much as we pay for Coals; 'tis surprising that we have so little cultivated this Commodity, which is so much in Demand; when 'tis certain, that in the *Southern* Parts of the Kingdom, we

could raise very good Hops, and sufficient for our own Consumption : with some it has succeeded well ; but the Want of Hop-Poles is the great Discouragement, in this Country, where there are so few Plantations or Trees, to be met with ; and it requires seven Years or more from the first Planting of Oziers, Sallies, Birch, Ash, &c. before they will come to a sufficient Growth for Poles ; but as the first Expence of these Nurseries is small ; and the Profit at last very considerable, and the Management of Hop-Yards easily known ; 'tis to be hop'd some Gentlemen will begin so laudable a Work, as well for their own Good, as that of their Country.

4th, WE pay the *Dutch* 5285 Pounds for Madder, at a Medium yearly, which we might as well raise and cultivate among our selves, our Land having been found very fit to produce it, and there being little Skill wanting for the Management of it.

5th, 'TIS a great Reproach to us, that we who are surrounded with a Sea abounding in all Sorts of Fish, and furnish'd with many Harbours for carrying on Fisheries to great Advantage, should neglect this Treasure, which Nature has brought to our Doors ; and that instead of supplying foreign Markets with this Commodity, to our great Profit, we should even Import from other Countries to the Value of 5708 l. yearly at a Medium, in Herrings only, for our own Consumption.

6th, IT appears by the *Custom-House Books*, that we paid to other Countries at a Medium yearly, for four Years ending *March 24 1726*, for Silken Manufactures 42986 l. for Woollen Manufactures 24755 l. for undressed Hemp 11483 l. for Paper 10645 l. for Ironmonger Ware 10766 l. for Cambricks 8406 l. for Hollands 5636 l. for Earthen Ware 5552 l. and for Whalebone 5114 l. all which, as well as other Valuations before set forth, are herein particularly mentioned with this View, that our own People seeing  
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the Value of those several Commodities, which are imported yearly upon us, and which all pay Duty, may be thereby tempted to furnish the Kingdom from their own Industry, with the same Commodities; which we are well qualified to do, if proper Measures were taken, and Encouragements given to undertake and prosecute those Branches of Trade.

7th, WE have of late been put into a Method of tanning Hides, with the Help of Tormentil Roots instead of Bark, and have made some successful Experiments therein; and if upon farther and compleat Trials in all Sorts of Leather, this Practice shall be found to succeed; 'tis hop'd, it may come into a general Use, and thereby save yearly above 16000*l*. which we pay for foreign Bark, and enable us to Export all our Hides fully tann'd, and thereby enlarge the Value of our Exports.

8th, THE Inhabitants of *Belfast* have begun a laudable Practice of using Linnen Scarfs and Crapees at Funerals, instead of Silk Modes, which are generally imported clandestinely into the Kingdom from *France*, and are of little Service for any other Purpose, and are pretty much of the same Price; whereas Linnen Scarfs may be applied to many other Uses, and may be made of all Prices, from one Shilling to eight Shillings a Yard, answerable to the Quality or Fortune of the Deceased; which are good Arguments for their Use, and the more so, when we consider that they are the Manufacture of our own Kingdom,

9th, IT may be thought adviseable also for the People of *Ireland* to bury their Dead in Woollen; by which Means they will increase the Manufacture and Consumption of their own Wooll, which they are not allowed to export Abroad; and at the same Time save more Linnen for Exportation, for which they have full Vent in other Countries.

10th,

10th, I CANT but take Notice of the impolitick Conduct of our Merchants, who crowding into foreign Markets, with great Quantities of our perishable Commodities at once, give Foreigners an Opportunity of playing them one against another, and sinking the Value of their Goods very low ; whereas, if they would concert their Affairs better, and forbear carrying their Commodities to such Places, in greater Proportions than they are demanded, they might dispose of them to much greater Advantage, and turn the Tables on those, who can't do without them.

HAVING thus with the greatest Candour and Impartiality laid before the Reader, the yearly Value of the Remittances in Money, which we may reasonably be suppos'd to make to our Gentlemen who live Abroad ; and having also consider'd, what Balance in our Favour we have by our whole Trade to enable us to maintain these Remittances ; and having likewise taken into Consideration several other Articles which do either increase or lessen the Ballance : I leave it to every one to judge whether the Inferences and Observations drawn from thence are well grounded : It appears on one Hand, that our *Absentees* draw out of the Kingdom yearly above 600000 *l.* and on the other, that the Ballance in our Favour by our Trade (which is the Fund we have to discharge these Draughts upon us with,) amounts to no more than 180000 *l.* yearly, according to the publick Estimates, and by Consequence there will be wanting 420000 *l.* to make good these Payments.

NOW supposing the said Ballance of 180000 *l.* not to be lessen'd by the Running of foreign Goods into the Kingdom ; but, on the contrary, by a more advantageous Sale of our Commodities abroad in a fair Trade, and by any other Article of Profit to be increas'd to a further Sum of 180000 *l.* (which is much too great to be allow'd) yet even then we shall want

240000 *l.*

240000*l.* to make up the full Sum of our Remittances Abroad.

How we have been able hitherto to support all this, I leave to others to account for ; perhaps, that Stock which we have been gathering for many Years, may hitherto have enabled us to answer these Demands upon us, when they were more moderate ; but, 'tis impossible for us to subsist much longer under such a wasteful Drain ; 'tis evident, by the great Scarcity of Money in the Kingdom, that our Stock is draining off to the Lees, which is in a good Measure owing also to the Necessity we were under the last two Years of sending out to the Value of between 1 and 200000*l.* to bring in Corn for our Subsistence.

If this be our Case now, and that the present Cash of the Kingdom is no way sufficient to carry on our domestick or foreign Trade, and that there is a great Stagnation in our Business already for Want of Money ; what must be our Case in a little Time, when all the rest of our Species shall be carry'd off ; as it must certainly be, if our *Gentlemen* Abroad shall continue to draw it from us, in the Degree they do at present ; the Consequence will then be, that we shall not be able to support our Establishment, and shall cease to be an Advantage to *England*, which, will ever receive less from us in Proportion, as we grow poorer. 'Tis to be hoped the People of *England* will not be against our taxing the Estates of our *Absentees*, since it may enable us to pay the Taxes of our Country, support our Government, and prevent our becoming a Burthen to them ; and we may presume they may be the rather inclin'd to approve of such a Tax, since 'tis more than probable, that most of our *Absentees*, will notwithstanding this, still live among them, and not forego their foreign Pleasures on that Account.

I HAVE taken particular Notice of the Benefits, which accrue to *England* by its Dealings with *Ireland*,  
and

and that it is its Interest to let the People of *Ireland* into a free Enjoyment of every Branch of Trade, and to give full Employment to all their Hands, since every Profit arising from thence will only serve to enlarge their Remittances to that Kingdom.

If the People of *England*, will still keep us under the same Restrictions in Trade, let them send us home our *Gentlemen*, or if they will have our *Gentlemen* live and spend their Fortunes among them, it is to be hoped that they will give us a greater Liberty of Trade to enable us to maintain them there; one or other of these Expedients seems to be absolutely necessary at present, for the Support of this Kingdom.

HAVING by this Time tir'd the Reader as well as my self, I shall only beg Leave to take Notice, that I hope the general Observations, I have drawn from a plain Representation of Matters of Fact, and publick Estimates, will not, as it never was my Intention they should, give the least Offence to any one: 'Tis of no Importance to be inform'd who the Author is, it may suffice to know that he can with the greatest Truth and Sincerity declare, that he has employ'd his Thoughts, and some leisure Hours on this Subject, with no other Design, than to do some Service to this Country, and that he has no personal Views either to hurt any one, or to serve himself; he has no Employment, nor does he desire any, he is the Son of an *Englishman*, and has Part of his Fortune lying in *England*; he proposes to himself no other Satisfaction or Reward, than to be so happy as to put others of greater Abilities and Experience, on Thoughts and Measures of encreasing our Trade and Riches, and avoiding those Evils, which at present threaten the Ruin of the Kingdom.

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## APPENDIX.

**I**N this Second Edition I have added some Persons to the List of *Absentees*, who were omitted in the first, and make no doubt but many more may still be added on a farther Enquiry; but as the List here exhibited is abundantly sufficient to support my Argument; I shall at present give myself no farther Trouble about it.

I AM told some are disobliged for my rating their Estates too low; but they should consider that I have not taken upon me to give the full Value of any Gentleman's Estate, but only so much of it, as he may be supposed to spend Abroad; for I am satisfy'd, that the Estates of some Gentlemen are much greater than I have made them, a considerable Part thereof being applied to several Uses at Home; and indeed I have taken particular Care, in order to prevent Objections of this Nature, to be below the real Value in every Article of the List.

I

SOME

SOME think the Estates of those Occasional *Ab-sentees*, who stay Abroad but a short Time should not be rated higher, than to answer their Expences for the Time they are Abroad ; but it ought to be remembred, (as I have already observed) that in these Computations, we ought to mention those who are at any *one* Time absent, for if some come Home, others go Abroad, so that their Number is generally the same ; and I have accordingly not taken Notice of any one, who has gone out of the Kingdom since the Time of making the List, which was *May, June, and July* last.

IF any one imagines that our Profit by Trade amounts yearly to more than I have made it, I will at present suppose it to be 350000*l.* or if that be not thought sufficient 400000*l.* but even this Sum falls 200000*l.* short of our present Remittances Abroad, which consequently must reduce our capital Stock to nothing in a little Time.

BUT that we should not flatter ourselves with a Notion, that we have now a Ballance of 400000*l.* in Money in our Favour by Trade ; I shall shew that very few Countries in *Europe* have at present such a Ballance ; and in order to this, I shall consider what Money all the Countries of *Europe* may be reasonably supposed to gain yearly by their Traffick, whereby we may also make some Estimate of the Share of that Gain belonging to *Ireland* : At first Sight it may be thought very difficult to come to any Certainty in this Matter, but I hope to be able to give some Satisfaction without running into any Length.

THE Riches of every Country is principally estimated by the Quantity of its Gold and Silver ; some Countries derive this Wealth from Mines of Gold and Silver bestowed upon them by Nature, all others which are destitute of these Subterranean Treasures, have

have no other Way of procuring them, but by giving their Commodities in Exchange for them.

Now the *Spaniards* and the *Portuguese* import yearly from *America* into *Europe*, when their Trade is free and uninterrupted, near Four Million *Sterling* in Gold and Silver, of each of these Metals an equal Value pretty nearly; the Supply of Bullion from the other Parts of the World is very inconsiderable in Comparison of this. If we suppose, that Three Millions of this Treasure, (which is a large Allowance) is distributed yearly among the other Countries of *Europe* in Exchange for their Commodities, and that the Remainder only stays in *Spain* and *Portugal*; and if we farther suppose that One Million of the Three is sent away yearly in Silver to the *East-Indies*, by the *English*, *Dutch*, *French*, *Danes*, and other Nations that Trade thither, (as we have very good Reason to believe) then it will of Consequence follow, that all the other Countries in *Europe* together cannot gain more Money yearly by their Trade than Two Millions; nay, not so much, since the *Turkish* Dominions in *Asia*, and the Northern Parts of *Africa* have some small Part thereof: And this being the Case, 'tis evident that the Share of any one Country of *Europe* in this yearly Importation of Bullion from *America* cannot be very great; it cannot reasonably be supposed to amount to many 100000 *l.* yearly, since there are so many trading Nations, all which have Shares therein, some greater, others less according to their Trade; and therefore so large a Sum as 400000 *l.* which is a fifth Part of the Whole, cannot well be supposed to be the Share of *Ireland*, a Country small in its Extent, and not considerable in its Trade.

It is true one Country may by the Largeness of its Trade get from others yearly, not only their Shares of this *American* Treasure, but also a Part of their capital Stock: But this Gain can never last long; for no Country, but such as have constant Supplies from their Mines, can for any Length of Time bear a considerable Loss of its Species, without losing its Trade, and being undone.

BUT it has been objected, that if there is a Drain of 600000*l.* yearly out of this Kingdom, and if all our yearly Profit by Trade amounts to no more than 350000*l.* or 400000*l.* we must have been long since exhausted, but this being not so in Fact, there must of Consequence be a Mistake in the Calculation.

THIS being the strongest, and the only Objection of any Weight that has been raised against my Paper, I shall beg Leave to be a little more Particular in my Answer to it. When the Principles we argue from are undoubted, and true in Fact, the Inferences justly drawn from those Principles cannot with any Reason be denied. If it be true that we pay yearly 600000*l.* and get but 400000*l.* it necessarily follows that we lose yearly 200000*l.* of our capital Stock, which must consequently be exhausted in a few Years; but then it will be asked, How comes it that we have not been exhausted before now. This I shall endeavour to account for.

WE may observe, that 280000*l.* the *Custom-House* Ballance of Trade in our Favour, at a Medium yearly for seven Years ending 1720, was greater than the Ballance for the seven subsequent Years by 100000*l.* and that the Ballance for the Four first Years of the last seven Years, did not fall much short of the precedent Years; the great Deficiencies having fallen chiefly upon us, since the Beginning of the Year 1726: Now, if to the said Ballance of 280000*l.* we add a surplus Profit of 100000*l.* which we will suppose

suppose to have arisen yearly from the Sale of our Commodities Abroad, at a higher Price than they were rated at Home, then the whole Ballance in our Favour for that Time will be 380000*l.* yearly. This Profit, in all Likelihood, was sufficient to answer all the Demands upon us from Abroad in that Period, which Demands were then very moderate in Comparison of what they are at present: for I think it may be made to appear by considering the following Articles, that our Remittances Abroad for the last two Years have exceeded those of many former Years by above 200000*l.* yearly.

1<sup>st</sup>. THE Articles of 30000*l.* to our Regiments at *Gibraltar*, and 30000*l.* more by our Adventurers to *America* (mentioned in the List) have taken Place the last two Years only.

2<sup>d</sup>, OUR Pensioners, and others on our Civil and Military Establishments are observed not to live near so much among us of late, as they used to do.

3<sup>d</sup>, THE Estates of several Gentlemen abroad, which were set some Time after the *Revolution* for the Term of 31 Years, have, upon the Expiration of the Leases within these few Years past, been considerably raised, some to more than double of their former Rents.

4<sup>th</sup>, THE Humour of going Abroad, whether to *Soisson* to see the *Congress*, or to other Places for other Motives, has remarkably increased among our *Gentry* within these few Years past.

THESE Articles, and perhaps more, which may occur to others, have swell'd the Demands upon us from Abroad the last two Years, more in all Probability by 200000*l.* yearly than in former Years.

OUR yearly Profit by Trade, together with our Capital Stock, (which we have been gathering for many Years,) may hitherto have enabled us to bear these Remittances, but if our Drains should continue upon us a few Years more in the same Degree they  
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are at present, we must be a poor and miserable People, utterly unable to support our Establishment. To see us reduced to these unhappy Circumstances must be a Concern to all, excepting those who are Enemies to the present happy Settlement in our ROYAL-FAMILY, who would no doubt rejoyce to see the *Protestants of Ireland*, the most zealous Assertors of his Majesty's Rights, disabled from maintaining those Rights by being thrown into Poverty and Distress.

WHATEVER Course may be thought fit to be taken with respect to some of our *Absentees*, it is not to be supposed that it shall extend to those, who are Members of either House of *Parliament of Great-Britain*. Those honourable Persons deserve the highest Regards from us, both on Account of their signal Services in promoting the general Security and Happiness of all his Majesty's Dominions, and also on Account of their good Offices done to this Country in particular.

As to our occasional *Absentees*, who generally live at Home, and seldom go Abroad, unless for Health or Business, they may be made easy on this Account, since eight or twelve Months may be allowed for any to be Abroad, without including them within the Penalties of an Act for that Purpose.

BUT as to our Gentlemen, who live for the most Part abroad, and seem neither to have a Call there, or to be in a Way of doing any Service to this Kingdom; an Indulgence to them would but encourage others to forsake their Country also. 'Tis highly just and reasonable that they should pay their Share of the Publick Charges, as well as those who stay at Home, and it is to be hoped that nothing shall excuse them from it; nay if the Matter be rightly considered, they ought to pay more than others, for as much as by their extravagant Manner of Living they really hurt us, in making other People believe, we are rich, when we are really poor.

SOME

SOME have started an Objection that we might as well Tax such of our Gentlemen at home; who do not live up to their Fortunes; but we should consider that, tho' some may not make their yearly Expences equal to their Incomes, yet as they lay the Remainder out in Purchases or otherwise, and that little or no Money lies dead in their Hands, but circulates in the Business and Consumption of other People, it has the same Effect with respect to the Kingdom, as if they themselves had spent all the Rents of their Estates among us.

It has been said by some, that there accrues no Loss, but an Advantage to the Kingdom by our Gentlemen spending their Estates abroad, because by that Means we consume so much less of foreign Commodities at home, and export more of our own to other Countries. I wish such Persons could prevail on the Gentlemen of *England* to come and spend their Fortunes in *Ireland*, that their own Country may have the same Advantage.

BUT how shall our Establishment be supported, if our Consumptions, from whence our Taxes arise, shall decrease every Day: or how can our domestick Business be carried on without a sufficient Stock of Money, or we be able to maintain our Gentlemen Abroad, of whom they are so tender, if all our Gain by Trade falls so much short of their Demands upon us.

BESIDES, if the Matter be thoroughly considered, we shall find that our Exportations can be but little increased by our Gentlemen living abroad, since the greatest Part of our home Consumptions consist of such Articles, as cannot bear Exportation, namely, Mutton, Veal, Fowls, Roots, Fruits, fresh Fish, Malt-Drink, &c. And tho' the Consumption of our Imports should be a little lessened thereby, yet that will by no Means make Amends for the Decrease in our Duties, by which our Government is supported,  
and

and for the yearly Loss of so much Money spent by them abroad.

It must be acknowledged that several Gentlemen in this Kingdom have Estates in *England*, and have their Rents constantly returned to them hither, and that now and then Money is brought over and laid out here at Interest or in Purchases; and that a good deal of Money is detained here to pay the Debts of several *Absentees*, but I have not been able to form any Judgment of the Value or Quantity thereof.

I SHALL now beg Leave to mention some farther Hints concerning our Trade and Manufactures which were omitted in the first Edition, or have occurred to me since.

1<sup>st</sup>, THE Scarcity of Corn, which we labour'd under the last two or three Years, should put us in Mind of encouraging Tillage, by erecting publick Granaries for keeping and preserving all Sorts of Corn in our principal Sea-Ports, namely, *Dublin, Waterford, Cork, Limerick, Galway, Londonderry, Belfast, Newry and Drogheda*, or in some of them; which would prevent a Famine or Scarcity at any Time at Home, and enable us to export considerable Quantities of Corn yearly to other Countries, where it shall happen to be scarce and dear. For it may be observ'd that in some Parts or other of *Europe*; either *North* or *South*; there is hardly a Year, but by the Course of Rains or other natural Causes the Harvest fails in a great Measure: The last three Years the *Southern* Parts of *Europe* abounded with great Quantities of Corn, and the *Northern* Parts failed, and this present Year the *Northern* Countries have great Plenty, and the *Southern* are in Want; and those Nations are always sure to have the Advantage of high Prices, who have a Stock lay'd up at low Rates, to answer all Demands from Abroad. 'Tis often our Misfortune in *Ireland* to export our Corn cheap in the Beginning of the Year, and to be under

under the Necessity of importing the same back again at a dear Rate at the End of it.

GOOD Regulations may be made for securing every one's Property in the said Granaries, and to keep the Corn in good Order, such as they have in *Dantzick*; and it may be farther provided that every one's Share in these Granaries may be a living Stock to him, and not lye dead upon his Hands at a Time when there shall be no Demand from abroad: For it may be so ordered, that any one, who shall deposite a 1000 Barrels of Wheat there, and shall bring a Certificate of his Stock, from the Overseer of the Granary, may assign over the same to another for two Thirds of the Value, paying Interest for the Sum advanced. By this Means the Creditor will have a sufficient Security in his Hands for his Money, and the Farmer or Corn-Merchant be supply'd with two Thirds of the Value of his Corn to answer his present Occasions, and not be laid under a Necessity of selling, until the Markets at Home, or Abroad give him an Opportunity of doing it to Advantage; in which Case the Creditor must be first satisfied before the Corn can be removed.

2d, It will follow, that we import yearly into the Kingdom to the Value of Twenty Thousand Pounds in *Flanders* and foreign Lace, on Supposition that only a Thousand Ladies in the whole Kingdom lay out yearly one with another to the Value of twenty Pounds therein, which Supposition is very moderate, both in Respect to the Value of the Lace and Number of the Ladies: For as long as the *English* and *French* shall continue to wear fine Lace, we may be assured that our *Irish* Ladies will not fail to imitate them.

It would be of great Service to the Publick, if the Trustees of the Linnen Manufacture were enabled to set on Foot this Manufacture, by which we may supply all our own Occasions, and thereby save

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yearly the aforementioned Sums, and also furnish other Countries with great Quantities thereof to our Advantage. And we may reasonably promise our selves Success in this Manufacture, since our Women are come to great Perfection in spinning fine Thread, and improve every Day both in the Fineness and Whiteness of it; so that we are already in a great Measure prepared for this Manufacture, and have a great Number of Idle Hands fit to be employed in this Work.

3<sup>d</sup>, WE have already begun a Manufacture of Cambrick, and at once are arrived to a considerable Fineness therein. This Branch of our Linnen Manufacture should meet with all Encouragement, since by our own Industry we may supply both our own and our Neighbours Demands; and thereby not only avoid paying above 8000*l.* yearly for foreign Cambrick, but in a great Measure supersede any farther Occasion for Muslin, Cambricks being now generally used for the same Purposes as Muslin, and of double the Service; which would be still a greater Advantage since we have imported to the Value of 17137*l.* in Muslin at a Medium yearly for seven Years ending 24<sup>th</sup> of *March* 1726.

4<sup>th</sup>, WE have hitherto made little or no Progress in making of Paper, which is so nearly allied to the Linnen Manufacture; those Countries being observed to make most Paper which make most Linnen. 'Tis to be hoped that our Trustees of the Linnen Manufacture will be enabled to set on Foot the making of this Commodity, which is so much in Demand; we may be furnished in a great Measure with the Materials of it at Home, if our poor People were employed and encouraged to gather Raggs, which lie neglected every where; in Imitation of the *Dutch*, who even send Ships abroad yearly to carry home a Loading of Raggs, and make great Advantage thereof.

5<sup>th</sup>, We have Imported to the Value of 43933<sup>l</sup>. in Deal Boards and Timber of all Sorts, at a Medium yearly for seven Years ending the 24<sup>th</sup> of *March* 1726. 'Tis a great Misfortune that we are under the Necessity of sending to distant Countries for Timber for building our Houses, and even for the necessary Uses of Agriculture; our poor People for want of it can have nothing but miserable Cabbins to dwell in, and frequently lose their Cattle in great Numbers for want of Houses to shelter them in severe Weather. 'Tis to be hoped our Legislature will enter into Measures to encourage the planting of Trees, which may in Time answer our Occasions, and prevent our sending so much Money Abroad yearly for the Purchase of this Commodity.

I CANNOT but observe that our Law, and the usual Clauses in Leases, which reserve all Trees to the Landlord, are in Effect, the Cause why neither Landlord nor Tenant have any Trees at all. There was good Reason for these Reservations in former Times when the Country was covered with Woods, in Regard these Woods were entirely owing to Nature and not to any Industry of the Tenant, who paid less Rent for Lands which were covered with them; therefore it was fit that the Proprietor of the Land should have the whole Benefit of the Trees. But now the Case is quite different; for by the Landlords neglecting to preserve the young Growth of Woods, which were cut down, by copying the same, we have now no Woods at all; nor have any Way left to raise new Plantations but by giving Encouragement to the Persons who occupy the Land, and must be at great Pains and Expence in planting and preserving the same; for it cannot be expected, that a Tenant, who perhaps pays a dear Rent for his Land, will Voluntarily load himself with a farther Charge, without some Prospect of Advantage to himself; and so the Landlord by not allowing the

Tenant a reasonable Profit for his Labour and Expence, is prevented from having any Profit at all himself.

THE late Act of *Parliament*, which gives the Tenant at the End of his Lease, a Right to the third Part of the Trees he shall Plant, by giving too little Encouragement, has had little or no Effect; for what Reason can there be to give the Landlord, who has already by his Rent the full Value of his Land, two Thirds of all the Trees the Tenant shall Plant, and to leave only one Third for the Tenant, which will not answer his Trouble and Expence, especially where the Term of the Lease does not exceed twenty one Years; for Trees planted at the Beginning of such a Lease, will be but of little Value at the Expiration of it.

It may be therefore adviseable to entitle the Tenant to two Thirds of the Trees he shall Plant, and to oblige him to sell them to the Landlord for their Value in Money, if they should not be of fit Growth to be cut down at the Expiration of his Lease. By this Means the Landlord will have the Third Part, clear Gain, (for which he is at no manner of Expence,) and also the Benefit of the future Growth of the Whole after the End of the Term; and the Tenant will be encouraged to Plant, to the great Benefit and Ornament of the Kingdom.

It may be proper also to give all Gentlemen, who are Tenants for Life by their Marriage Settlements, or otherwise, such a Power over all Trees they shall Plant, as that their Executors may have a Year or two after their Deaths, to dispose of them for the Benefit of their younger Children.

6th, THE Gentlemen who have set up the making of Glass-Bottles among us, have done real Service to their Country, and 'tis hoped that they will be encouraged to proceed to the making all Sorts of Glass-Ware. Iron-Ware may be made with Advantage

vantage near those Places where our Cole-Mines lie, and where Firing is consequently cheap. But these and all other Improvements require Stocks of Money, which we are not so happy as to have at present, nor are we in a likely Way of getting or keeping any for the future; since the Gentlemen of Fortune among us, as often as they make up a large Sum of Money, never lay it out in promoting new Manufactures and Improvements that are wanted, which would be doing the greatest Good to their Country; but constantly dispose of it in the purchase of Lands, generally the Lands of some *Absentee*, who never fails to carry it all out of the Kingdom; so that these Gentlemen, who do not spend any Part of their Money abroad, yet by acting in this Manner, have all their Savings carry'd off from us. This might in some Measure be prevented if on all Sales of Lands for the future, some Part of the purchase Money were by Law reserved for the Use of the Publick.

7th, WE have been some Time since inform'd of his Majesty's Gracious Intention of establishing some Professorships in the University of *Dublin* for the Advancement of Learning, and it were to be wish'd, that we had also Professors of Agriculture, Trade, and Practical Arts; since 'tis to these we owe all the Necessaries, Conveniencies and Ornaments of Civil Life. At present Men of Learning have for the most Part little or no Knowledge in these Affairs, and they who are in the Profession of them want Ability or Leisure to give others a just Light into them, or to improve them themselves to that Degree, they are capable of. It has been observed that most of the useful Inventions for the Good of Mankind, have been owing to Men of Study and Observation, who have been of no particular Profession, and yet have employed their Talents and Learning  
in

in the Improvement of Arts for the Good of Mankind, by proper Experiments and Observations.

IN these last Ages, Lord *Bacon*, Mr. *Boyle*, Sir *Isaac Newton*, *Hugenius*, and others, have obliged the World with several Inventions and Improvements, tending to the Advantage of human Life, and 'tis to be hoped that like *Genius*'s may arise among our selves, if right Measures be taken to direct our Youth in the same Pursuits and Manner of thinking. Nothing enlarges our Knowledge so much or makes it so useful to the World as accurate Experiments and Observations. These will preserve the Minds of young Gentlemen from the Delusions of Fancy, will enable them to judge rightly of the Nature of Things, and make them truly useful to the World.

FINDING that the *Bookseller* intended to Print a Second Edition of the List of *Absentees*, I was willing to make some small Additions to it; but having not had Time to draw them up in any other than a crude and indigested Manner, I must beg the Reader's Pardon for this and other Failings, and Hope to be excused on Account of the Sincerity of my Endeavours to serve my Country

## F I N I S.

### More ERRATA in the first Edition.

PAGE 54, line 21. for *than* put *then*. p. 60. l. 27. dele *Butter*.  
p. 63. l. 9. insert *King* before *William*. p. 64. l. 16. after  
*very*, put *little*.

N. B. In the TITLE instead of *State*, put *Trade*.

